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THE

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

PREPARED BY

The late Lieut. Col. ROBERT N. SCOTT, Third U. S. Artillery.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

The Hon. REDFIELD PROCTOR, Secretary of War,

BY

MAJ. GEORGE B. DAVIS, U. S. A.,
MR. LESLIE J. PERRY,
MR. JOSEPH W. KIRKLEY,
Board of Publication.

SERIES I—VOLUME XXXVI—IN THREE PARTS

PART III—CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1891.

A. 36164

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PART III.—VOL. XXXVI.

CORRESPONDENCE, ORDERS, AND RETURNS RELATING TO OPERATIONS IN SOUTHEAST VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA, FROM MAY 20, 1864, TO JUNE 12, 1864.*

UNION CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
In the Field, May 20, 1864—8.30 a. m. (Received 4 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The attempt to turn our right last evening was by Ewell's corps wholly. They were promptly repulsed by Birney's and Tyler's divisions and some of Warren's troops that were on the extreme right. About 300 prisoners fell into our hands, besides many killed and wounded. Our loss foots up little over 600 wounded and about 150 killed and missing. This is as near an accurate report as can be given at this time. Probably the killed and missing is overstated.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 20, 1864—7.30 p. m. (Received 12 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Our casualties for yesterday foot up 196 killed, 1,090 wounded, and 249 missing. We buried nearly an equal number of rebel dead, besides what they buried or carried off, and retain 472 prisoners exclusive of wounded. Send all new cavalry equipped as infantry, and mount veterans on their horses.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, *May* 20, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

In regard to the operations it is better for General Hunter to engage in, with the disposable force at his command, I am a little in doubt. It is evident that he can move south, covering the road he has to guard, with a larger force than he can spare to be removed to re-enforce armies elsewhere. Then, too, under the instructions of General Sigel, Crook was to get through to the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, cut New River bridge, and move eastward to Lynchburg, if he could; if not, to Fincastle, Staunton, and down

*For Correspondence, &c., from May 1 to May 19, 1864, see Part II.

the Shenandoah Valley. Sigel was to collect what force he could spare from the railroad, and move up the valley with a supply train to meet him. The enemy are evidently relying for supplies greatly on such as are brought over the branch road running through Staunton. On the whole, therefore, I think it would be better for General Hunter to move in that direction; reach Staunton and Gordonsville, or Charlottesville, if he does not meet too much opposition. If he can hold at bay a force equal to his own, he will be doing good service.

In a letter to the Secretary of War, written about one week ago, I recommended Generals Sherman and Meade for promotion to major-generals in the Regular Army, and Hancock for brigadier. I wish you would urge this again. The Secretary replied that there was but one vacancy for major-general. I think this must be a mistake. I was appointed before General Wool was retired, or at least was notified of the fact that an original vacancy existed before his retirement. General Wright is one of the most meritorious officers in the service, and with opportunity will demonstrate his fitness for any position; but at present I doubt whether Sheridan has not most entitled himself to the other vacant brigadier-generalcy. This, however, I would leave open for a time.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 20, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Spotsylvania Court-House, Va.:

There are 3,000 wounded men in Fredericksburg, who cannot be removed except by water transportation. General Meigs will send transports to-day to ascend the Rappahannock to-morrow for that purpose. The south bank of the river above Port Royal should be held by our cavalry, in order to enable the transports to pass up. Supplies of forage will accompany the fleet. Large amounts of property have been sent to Fredericksburg. If that place is to be abandoned this property should first be removed. Moreover, the repair of the Aquia Creek Railroad should cease. The navigation of the Rappahannock above Port Royal is difficult, and will cease when the river falls.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: Birney reports the enemy having disappeared from his front of last night. He has followed them down to the river at the deserted house, taking several prisoners from their stragglers, and all seem to indicate the presence of Ewell's corps yesterday, and their withdrawal in the night to their intrenchments. I propose now to withdraw Birney and Tyler and leave Russell with Warren's people to keep watch against the return of the enemy.

Yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: I have sent directions to General Wright to prepare himself to hold the right flank of the army with his corps on the withdrawal of Warren. I have also directed two engineer officers to report to him to assist him in laying out his lines. I think it would be well if you should send either Comstock or Babcock to consult and advise with him. He is now rather advanced from the river to throw back his right flank, hold to the river, and have any force to hold the Anderson house, but this will depend greatly on the nature of the ground. Over 470 prisoners have reached the provost-marshal-general from the Second Corps. Warren says Crawford picked up a number. As soon as they come in and I get returns of casualties ordered, I will report.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding:

GENERAL: General Ingalls has advices from the gun-boats announcing the Rappahannock River free from all obstructions up to Fredericksburg. This will enable steamers to take away all our wounded, and secures Port Royal for a base in case it should be required.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
May 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: During the day yesterday, and before the afternoon attack, 6 prisoners were sent from Captain Rider, Fifth Corps. They had been captured one, two, or three days previously. The whole number of prisoners (including 3 commissioned officers) received last evening was 45, sent in by Colonel Kitching, Sixth New York Heavy Artillery. They were from all brigades of Ewell's corps except Doles', Hays', and Pegram's, and 40 of them were from Rodes' division. One was received from General Warren from A. P. Hill's corps. Captain Leslie of this department was on his way from Fredericksburg during the alarm at the commencement of the attack, and meeting 9 prisoners he sent them to the main guard near Fredericksburg. We have received this morning from General Birney 360 prisoners, fully representing all the brigades of Ewell's corps, including 4 commissioned officers.

SUMMARY.

Received yesterday a. m.	6
Received from Colonel Kitching	45
Received from Fifth Corps	1
Sent to Fredericksburg	9
Received from General Birney	360
One commissioned officer and 1 private received this a. m. from Fifth Corps	2
Additional received from General Birney	9
	432

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—8 a. m.

The major-general commanding desires to express his satisfaction with the good conduct of Tyler's division and Kitching's brigade of heavy artillery in the affair of yesterday evening. The gallant manner in which these commands (the greater portion being for the first time under fire) met and checked the persistent attack of a corps of the enemy led by one of his ablest generals, justifies the commanding general in this special commendation of troops who henceforward will be relied upon as were the tried veterans of the Second and Fifth Corps at the same time engaged.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 140. HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864.

* * * * * * *

3. The wounded now with this army will at once be sent to Fredericksburg under the general direction of the chief quartermaster and medical director. Corps commanders will furnish such medical officers, attendants, and supplies as may be required by their medical directors for the wounded.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

The supply and other trains of the army will move to-morrow from Fredericksburg to Guiney's Station.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Hancock and Wright.)

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864.

Col. F. MCGILVERY, *Comdg. Ammunition Park:*

COLONEL: The number of guns in this army for which ammunition is to be transported is as follows: Eighty-eight light 12-pound-

ers, sixteen Parrotts, one hundred and two 3-inch. For them 20 rounds each are to be carried in the wagons of the artillery park. The number of wagons for the ammunition train proper is, therefore, sixteen for light 12-pounders, seventeen for rifles, which should be loaded, 112 rounds of light 12-pounder, 140 of rifle, per wagon. Two wagons are allowed in addition for primers, fuses, &c. Eight wagons for the mortar battery. Of these forty-three wagons nine wagons are allowed for transport of forage. The wagons for the above-stated purposes now with the artillery park, over and above the allowance, will be turned over to the quartermaster's department.

If there is more ammunition than above stated now in the train the excess will be stored in a safe place in Fredericksburg, if a room for the purpose can be procured, and issued from time to time as the batteries make requisition for it. If you leave Fredericksburg before it is all issued, it will be turned over to the quartermaster's department for transport to Belle Plain, unless there is an ordnance officer at Fredericksburg to take charge of it, in which case it will be turned over to him. You will proceed at once to organize your command for the field, as you may receive orders at any hour to move, and report your readiness to the chief of artillery.

By command of General Hunt:

JNO. N. CRAIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—10 p. m.

Capt. D. R. RANSOM,
Commanding Second Brigade Horse Artillery:

CAPTAIN: You will report with your brigade to Lieutenant-Colonel Gould, commanding dismounted cavalry at Fredericksburg, and move with him until further orders.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—10 p. m.

Col. F. MCGILVERY, *Comdg. Ammunition Park:*

COLONEL: You will move with the train which has orders to move to-night, picking up the battalion of Fifteenth New York Artillery which is at the cross-roads, and which has orders to join you as your guard and part of your command. You will remain and move with the main train until further orders, reporting from time to time, as opportunity offers, your locality and condition.

Respectfully, &c.,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Comdg. Second Corps:*

The commanding general directs me to say that some portion of your troops have been passing back to the position of yesterday along

the edge of the field in view of the enemy. They should be directed to pass through the woods to the rear of these headquarters, out of view of the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 2.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The orders given you yesterday will be repeated to-night. You will start at such time as, in your judgment, will best secure the object of the expedition. Please communicate this briefly to Brigadier-General Torbert.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I expect you will find opposition to your crossing of the Mattapony—probably batteries and a small force. Keep your pontoon train near you and endeavor to throw a bridge as soon as possible, at some point where you can command the crossing.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 20, 1864—8.52 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

My command moves at 11 p. m. I shall move as fast as the cavalry can push on before daylight and as rapidly as possible after. I propose to destroy Guiney's, Downer's, and Burke's Bridges. These points will be so far in my rear, I ought not to leave any force to watch them after my column passes, though it ought perhaps to be done.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I see no occasion for the destruction of the bridges proposed by you. They will be wanted for communication and for other columns. Unless the enemy attack us to-morrow, you will be followed on your right flank, early in the day, by Warren, who will move on the Telegraph road. Perhaps I do not understand the bridges referred to. Do you mean those you will cross, and are these bridges on roads to your right flank leading into the one you move on? Even then, they will be needed to keep up communication with Warren, in case he succeeds in crossing the Po.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 20, 1864—9.40 p. m.

General MEADE:

I shall not destroy the bridges, since I learn that General Warren is to move on the Telegraph road. When I sent my dispatch I was under the impression that my right flank would be entirely uncovered. I did not know of General Warren's movement.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864.

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: I will send the return of casualties as soon as possible. As to the corps moving in front, I gave specific and positive instructions this morning that General Birney should move his troops to their camps in rear of the woods. At daylight I found a brigade marching in front of the woods. I sent a staff officer at once to correct it, but, a fog intervening, it caused no difficulty to the last brigade that came in. I will have their camps struck and the troops marched back around to their present position in a way that cannot be seen. I have called upon General Birney for an explanation. Already 412 prisoners have been turned over to the provost-marshal-general.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following field returns of this command for the 20th instant:

	Present for duty.			Gain since April 30.		Loss since April 30.		Remarks.
	Officers.	Men.	Total.	Troops assigned.	Otherwise.	Battle.	Otherwise.	
Corps headquarters	25	156	181	.....	.....	2	.....	
Engineer Battalion	11	335	346	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Artillery Brigade	55	1,964	2,024	384	.....	71	.....	Third Battalion joined.
First Division	263	4,501	4,764	.....	431	3,366	415	
Second Division	312	5,921	6,233	2,388	158	3,117	396	36th Wisconsin, 69th [182d], 155th, 164th, 170th New York Regiments joined.
Third Division	378	6,541	6,919	3,800	.....	4,598	1,080	
Fourth Division	241	6,485	6,726	7,215	.....	989	.....	Joined May 18.
Division (late Fourth)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,965	Consolidated with Third Division.
Total	1,285	25,908	27,193	13,787	589	12,143	6,856	

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 20, 1864.

No trains containing supplies, baggage, or ammunition will be brought to the front from the main supply train without authority from these headquarters. Whenever issues are necessary the wagons will be brought up under the direction of the chief quartermaster, and in a consolidated shape. Sufficient care is not taken to secure the position of our troops and the trains accompanying them from the observation of the enemy's signal station. Advantage should always be taken of the screen afforded by a belt of woods. When this cannot be had, the troops should be disposed under the cover of a ridge if practicable, and the men prevented from straggling up into the view of the enemy.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—5 p. m.

The command will move to-night as follows: First Division at 11 p. m. by way of Anderson's Mill and Massaponax Church. A staff officer from these headquarters will conduct the column. Second Division will follow the First. The Fourth Division will move by the cross-road from the Gate to the Massaponax road, by Abbott's, and enter the Massaponax road immediately after the Second Division. A staff officer will conduct this column. The Third Division will move immediately after the Fourth, leaving one brigade as rear guard. The commandant of artillery will assign two batteries to each division. The remaining batteries and caissons will move between the Third and Fourth Divisions. Each division will be followed by ten ambulances and one medical wagon, and ammunition-wagons sufficient for 10 extra rounds per man (besides the 50 rounds on the person) and one wagon load of intrenching tools. One-half of the ammunition, medical wagons, and ambulances will be sent to the general train under charge of Captain McEntee, assistant quartermaster. The bridge train proper will move at dark to Massaponax Church. From this point it will follow the Reserve Artillery train. All other vehicles permitted to move with the troops will be assembled and will move in rear of the Third Division, under charge of Colonel Batchelder, chief quartermaster. The commandant of the rear guard will place a part of his command on each flank of this train. Commanders will take every precaution to keep the column closed, leaving staff officers at difficult places on the road to see that the men keep well closed and in the ranks. It is of the first importance that the command be kept compact and in hand. All stragglers will be likely to fall into the hands of the enemy. The cavalry under General Torbert will move at 11 p. m. by way of Guiney's Station, pushing on as far as practicable toward Bowling Green and picketing all roads intersecting the main route.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 20, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that he gave this morning specific instructions that your troops should be brought back to their camps by marching in rear of the woods, out of sight. At daylight it was observed that General Mott's brigade was passing in front of the woods. A staff officer was at once sent from these headquarters to conduct his brigade, but owing to the fog it is not supposed that it was seen by the enemy. Another brigade or more of your command has come in an hour or so since, passing plainly in sight, in front of the woods. This brigade must be at once marched back under the direction of Captain Parker, my aide-de-camp, to pass behind the woods to a point opposite the place where it now is, not to come in sight again to-day. You will please send a staff officer with this column.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. BIRNEY'S DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
No. —. } *May* 20, 1864.

I. The Fourth Maine Volunteers, Col. E. Walker, is hereby temporarily assigned to duty with the Third Brigade of this division. Colonel Walker will report at once to Brigadier-General Mott, commanding brigade.

By command of Major-General Birney:
F. BIRNEY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 20, 1864—5.30 a. m.

General MEADE:

Following dispatch just received:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 20, 1864—4.30 a. m.

I have advanced my lines to attack the enemy. He has retired during the night.
S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The enemy having withdrawn across the river and to their intrenchments, as reported by General Birney, I shall withdraw Birney and Tyler, of the Second Corps, and leave the defense of this

flank to your command and that of General Russell, whom you will accordingly post so as to be apprised of any such movement as was made yesterday.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Respecting dispatch as to the wagons that should accompany the troops, there is no change in the original order requiring one-half the ammunition-wagons, one-half the intrenching tools, transportation for five days' forage, &c., to accompany the troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—8.20 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

Burnside and Wright are ordered to push forward their pickets and feel the enemy. The re-enforcements sent to our right on this side the Ny from the Sixth Corps are to be retained there. The commanding general desires to know what disposition you have made of them and of your own troops on that flank. Major Forsyth, commanding cavalry detachment there, should co-operate with you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864.

General MEADE:

I have sent Major Roebling, who was present in all yesterday's engagement, to assist General Russell in relieving General Birney and General Tyler. General Crawford has been instructed to push ahead his skirmish line till the enemy is felt. Major Forsyth I instructed to patrol the road to Fredericksburg and watch all roads leading into it from the west.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Major Roebling has just returned. He says our skirmishers advanced for more than a mile, picking up many of the rebel stragglers. All the rebels are back this side of the river.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—10.20 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Have you any prisoners not yet sent here, taken last night or this morning? If so, how many, and when will they be here? Forward them immediately.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Wright.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Crawford has not sent in any prisoners to these headquarters. I know a number were taken, and if they have not been forwarded direct to you I will send them forward at once.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Have the prisoners captured by General Crawford's command this morning been sent in yet? How many prisoners were captured by General Crawford?

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, VA., *May* 20, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

All the prisoners taken by us have been sent to General Patrick. The report of casualties is on its way to you. Our new troops undoubtedly fired into each other yesterday in some instances.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs that you hold your corps ready to withdraw and follow Hancock to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, or to follow the enemy should he follow Hancock. General Wright will take up a new line upon your withdrawal.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs that the utmost vigilance be observed to-morrow morning from a very early hour, and before daylight, and any movement or stir on the part of the enemy be reported at once to these headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—10 p. m.

General WARREN:

In the event of your moving to-morrow, direct Major Forsyth to report to Major-General Wright for orders and instructions.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—10.35 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Where will the trains that are here move to?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864.

General WARREN:

The trains that are authorized to be with the troops, will move with them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

The Maryland Brigade behaved most commendably yesterday, and I believe were the only veteran troops engaged seriously. Colonel Dushane was just arriving with the First Maryland veterans, and on hearing the firing went into action at once without orders from any one. He lost considerably, and had his own horse killed. As there have been some unfavorable remarks made about this brigade which were rather uncalled for, about which they are sensitive, I wish especially to commend their conduct on yesterday as an act of justice and for the good of the service.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864.

Major-General WARREN :

Your dispatch in relation to the behavior of the Maryland Brigade yesterday has been received. The commanding general published an order this morning, of which a copy has been sent you, in which he designed to commend the good conduct of all the troops engaged in the affair of last evening. He thought, however, that under the circumstances he was justified in particularizing the heavy artillery. Had he known at the time that the Maryland Brigade was conspicuous on the occasion, he would have specially mentioned that command also. He has no objection to your publishing an order, commending in such terms as you may think best, the conduct of the Maryland Brigade.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 20, 1864.

General CRAWFORD :

Get all the command belonging to this corps well together on the left and let General Russell's troops take post on your right ; a list of casualties of yesterday is called for without delay. I take it some time will be allowed to make it out, but use all possible dispatch. Orders complimenting the troops for their conduct yesterday are sent.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA RESERVES,
THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864.

Capt. A. S. MARVIN, Jr., *Assistant Adjutant-General :*

CAPTAIN : I have the honor to furnish the following statement of prisoners captured in the engagement of yesterday, and since the enemy have retired : Artillery Brigade, Fifth Army Corps, Colonel Kitching commanding—70 prisoners, sent to army headquarters ; Third Brigade, Second Division, Colonel Bowerman—34 prisoners, sent to army headquarters ; Third Division—12 prisoners, sent to headquarters Fifth Army Corps. Total, 116 prisoners.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864.

Captain MARVIN, *Assistant Adjutant-General :*

The enemy to all appearance are the same as yesterday in my front. In front of my right the indications are rather stronger ; there has been a good deal of chopping, moving of wagons or artillery toward our right, hurrahing among the men, &c., during the night. My pickets are slowly advancing.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—8.10 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

General Burnside is ordered to push forward his pickets. Major-general commanding directs that you push forward your pickets and feel the enemy, giving your pickets such support as you can without weakening your main line. The enemy on the right were driven back last evening and retired before daylight. We lost some 600 in killed and wounded; the enemy at least as heavily, and between 200 and 300 prisoners. The force you sent to the support of the right will be retained there until further orders.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you make examination and preparation for holding your position on the right of the army upon General Warren's corps being withdrawn. This will require you to refuse your right and to hold Bleak Hill (Myers') and probably Anderson's. Engineers will be sent you immediately to aid in the examinations and preparations. The withdrawal of Warren will be in connection with Hancock's movement.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864. (Received 10.40 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The only trains from this corps between this and Fredericksburg are the wagons going for and returning with supplies. Some twenty-five wagons now unloading are to take back wounded of Second Corps, and are ordered to return by the Massaponax road. The trains also go from Fredericksburg to Belle Plain for supplies. It was in reference to all these that the question concerning guards was asked. If the roads are unsafe guards should be sent by me if not otherwise provided.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—10.45 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SIXTH CORPS:

The road to Fredericksburg and that to Belle Plain are deemed sufficiently safe without escort.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SIXTH CORPS,
May 20, 1864—1.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Have the engineers who were to be sent to me started yet? I have heard nothing of them. I would like the large map they have made of this locality, as it will aid me much in establishing the new line.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The engineer officers started immediately after your request. I have had a tracing of the sketch you want sent you.

A. A.. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

The major-general commanding directs that upon the withdrawal of Warren you take up the line agreed upon between you and the engineers and Colonel Babcock. General Burnside is or will be directed to take up at the same time the continuance of that line. General Warren will be withdrawn about 10 a. m. to-morrow. You will be prepared also, should the enemy follow Hancock, to withdraw and follow.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—3.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Has any change been made in the movements of Hancock? I should manage my left differently in case he does not go. Anything more definite as to the result of the fight yesterday? All quiet along the line.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—4 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Hancock is now on our right and is to attack if the enemy is still there. If he is not, I presume the programme of yesterday will be

carried out, unless the day develops something requiring new arrangements. There is nothing further respecting the fight of yesterday. As yet all is quiet.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

A part of General Hancock's [command] only is on the right, the remainder remain where they were yesterday.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The enemy is reported to have retired from the right across the Ny.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 20, 1864—8.20 a. m. (Received 8.25 a. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Push out a heavy line of skirmishers in connection with General Wright, to feel for the enemy, and to keep him employed. It is not designed to attack him behind his intrenchments, but to find out all that can be learned of his position and nature of his works and the intervening ground.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: The reconnaissances have already been pushed down the roads from my position this morning for 1½ miles, discovering no signs of the enemy. The skirmish line will be pushed forward as you order. It is now forming in conjunction with General Wright's.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Were any wagon trains attacked or lost yesterday during the attack on Tyler? It is reported that one of the Ninth Corps supply trains was destroyed or captured. Has General Hancock left Anderson's Mill crossing yet? Please inform me when he does.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

No trains were captured or destroyed yesterday. Some three or four wagons belonging to a supply train of the Ninth Corps, coming this way, were blocked, 2 or 3 animals killed, and the wagons temporarily disabled; they are believed to be repaired now and on their way to your corps. Hancock has not left Anderson's Mill; I will let you know when he does.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 20, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

On the removal of General Warren from the right, General Wright and yourself will take the line marked out to-day by the engineer officers. Make all the necessary preparations in advance for this change.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
May 20, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General GRANT:

General Wright received the telegram in reference to the line after Morton saw him, and is now laying out the line direct from Myers' house to Quesenberry's house, and I will conform to his line by extending toward the Po, certainly as far as the Quesenberry house, and farther if you wish.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 20, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Extend your line no farther than the Quesenberry house unless it can be done with perfect security; of this you must be the judge.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

H. PORTER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—1 a. m.

Generals CRITTENDEN, WILLCOX, and POTTER:

From information received from General Warren, it would seem that the main body of the enemy are moving down their works in this direction. Whilst I am satisfied that your commands are all on the alert, it will do no harm to send officers out to give additional instructions to keep a good lookout.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The reconnoitering party, under Captain McKibbin, went as far as the Telegraph road, at a point about 500 yards south of Smith's Mill, on the Ny. Found the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry at Smith's Mill. At English's house, about 2 miles out on the road to Smith's Mill, found an abandoned caisson with about 40 rounds of ammunition in one of the boxes; having no means of bringing it off, let it remain there, but did not destroy it, as he thought we might send for it if the general commanding desired it. Saw a few rebel cavalry, seemingly vedettes, who scattered to the south. Found only one road to the south, a wood road, that they followed but a short distance. The cavalry at Smith's Mill reported that the enemy's cavalry made a dash at them last night from the direction of Stanard's Mill. I inclose a report of a reconnaissance on the Massaponax Church road, made by Lieutenant-Colonel Mitchell.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, May 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. B. POTTER,
Comdg. Second Division, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions received from you I proceeded with 300 men, detailed for the purpose from the First and Second Brigades of this division, to make a reconnaissance for the distance of about 2 miles beyond our lines, upon the Massaponax Church road. I made a thorough examination of the country within about three-quarters of a mile to the right of the line indicated, and partially to the left of it, without finding any evidence of the enemy. The reconnaissance, though extended about 3 miles beyond our immediate line, hardly passed over ground not covered by our or Second Corps pickets. I found that our picket-line could be very much shortened, and at the same time embrace more ground by being joined to the pickets of the Second Corps in a direct line through the woods to our left, instead of following the road (Massa-

ponax) as they now do. I took a few men and examined the country to the right of the Massaponax road through the woods, until reaching some open sand, over which I proceeded until I reached the road to the right of the Massaponax road, along which Captain McKibbin's reconnaissance extended. The road at a point about 2 miles from our division line enters an open country from which observations can readily be made within a circuit of 2 miles. In this open tract of land I could see the encampment of the Second Corps.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. CHARLTON MITCHELL,
Lieut. Col., Actg. Asst. Insp. Gen., 2d Div., 9th Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: By direction of the general commanding I have the honor to apprise you of his satisfaction at your report* that your command repulsed the attack of the enemy on the 19th instant. The attack by Ewell's corps was general along the lines and was everywhere repulsed.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division, Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: Yours of this date just received.† All our troops it is expected will be moved to the left so as to bring into use the road near the Fredericksburg and Richmond Railroad. When this takes place you will move east so as to best cover it. In the mean time I think your troops had better remain substantially as they now are. It is impossible to give you more cavalry now, but Sheridan is now in his fourth day from Richmond, and may be looked for to-day or to-morrow. When he arrives his cavalry will be so disposed as to materially relieve you.

Your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will make such disposition of your forces to-morrow morning, the 21st instant, as to best cover Fredericskburg

* See Part I, p. 987.
† See Part I, p. 986.

and the road leading from there to Bowling Green. In doing this take up and maintain a line from Banks' Ford, via Tabernacle Church road, to the Port Royal road, letting your cavalry pickets extend as far as Tabernacle Church. Make your headquarters at or near Owens', where you will keep concentrated your main force.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 19. } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Camp near Baltimore Cross-Roads, Va., May 20, 1864.

The attention of the general commanding has been directed to the system of marauding and wanton destruction of household furniture, clothing, &c., through the country just passed over by this command. This is disgraceful, and will tarnish the brilliant success which has attended the Cavalry Corps since the opening of the campaign. The necessity of living upon the country and the order to that effect contemplated that organized parties in charge of commissioned officers would be sent out to procure the supplies. Hereafter all foraging parties will be so organized. The commissioned officer in charge will be held strictly to account for the acts of his men.

These details must be authorized when practicable by the division commanders. Under pressing circumstances the permission of the brigade commander will be sufficient. No enlisted man will be allowed to pass the picket-line without written authority from corps headquarters. All enlisted men found foraging without proper authority will be arrested and their horses turned over to the dismounted men belonging to their regiments. It is expected that every officer and soldier in the command will assist in putting down this disgraceful license, so destructive to the discipline and honor of the Cavalry Corps.

By command of Major-General Sheridan:

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Can't you send me the 500 cavalry who came out yesterday? They, I understand, are mostly all old men, and as I have to leave 1,000 men behind, they will be very necessary, considering the kind of troops I have, for an expected night fight.

Very respectfully,

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—11 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: Your dispatch received. Cavalry Corps headquarters will move to White House. We will leave here at 5 a. m. in the morning. The general will leave a strong picket at this point.

Very respectfully,

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

All quiet here. We leave at 5 a. m. to-morrow, May 21, for White House. Shall try and repair the railroad bridge on the Pamunkey at the White House. The general thinks it can be done. He examined it to-day.

CAMP CAVALRY DETACHMENT,
Fredericksburg Road, May 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your communication of the 19th instant, 6.30 p. m., was received at 10 p. m. last night, and yours of even date has just come to hand. Until within the last twenty minutes I have had nothing worthy of report. Sergeant Ferris, Second Pennsylvania Cavalry, who is just in from a scout, informs me that passing through the woods by a bridle path he crossed the Ny River and came out upon the Spotsylvania and Gordonsville road. The enemy have been falling back to Spotsylvania Court-House since very early this a. m. He saw nothing of them save a few stragglers; is of the opinion that there has been a large number of troops sent from Spotsylvania to Gordonsville; judges this by the way the footsteps were turned; thinks all the enemy save a few stragglers are upon the other side of the Ny River. Captain Lee, Third Indiana Cavalry, in from scouting, says the enemy have fallen back over the Ny River. Lieutenant Freeley, Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry, has a post of 90 men well toward Fredericksburg; he pickets and patrols well out on all roads leading westward; says he can hear nothing from the enemy. I have a patrol constantly upon the road between my quarters and Fredericksburg. Two other scouts report the enemy all over the Ny River save possibly a few stragglers. I am about reporting direct to General Birney by order of Major-General Warren. I have several scouting parties now out, and should anything worthy of note transpire will at once forward the information.

G. A. FORSYTH,
Major Eighth Illinois Cav., Comdg. Cavalry Detach.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., May 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Engineer Department, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 18th instant, requesting me to order a bridge down at Fredericksburg from some of the engineer trains now there, has been received. The Quartermaster-General having

no authority to touch the bridges of the Army of the Potomac, your letter was referred to Major-General Halleck, chief of staff, who returned it with the following indorsement:

MAY 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

The pontoons at Fredericksburg belong to the Army of the Potomac: General Benham also belongs to that army. He should, therefore, report to General Meade for his instructions.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 20, 1864—9.30 p. m. (Received 10 a. m. 21st.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

The major-general commanding directs that you replace the bridge at Fredericksburg, which will be taken up early to-morrow morning, and that you remain at Fredericksburg or Belle Plain with your bridge trains until it is ascertained where they will be required. Should they not be needed with the army you will be directed to return with them to Washington.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 20, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Brigadier-General BENHAM:

I do not understand how you are out of teams unless you have turned over the 8 and 6 mule teams to Captain Pitkin. To meet the case I have telegraphed to him to furnish the means necessary to haul the pontoon bridge to Fredericksburg, to leave pontoon trucks at Fredericksburg and bring back teams and retain them, and I presume you must have turned over to Captain Pitkin 256 animals furnished on the 10th instant, to transport the first bridge, which, however, did not go to Fredericksburg. If not, they should be delivered to him as soon as they return to Belle Plain. We depend upon them for the supply of Fredericksburg by the road; 57 drivers are attached to the teams.

M. C. MEIGS,
Brigadier-General, Quartermaster-General.

[Indorsement.]

MAY 20, 1864.

Those 256 animals referred to in your telegram and their drivers were turned over to Captain Pitkin verbally by me immediately on my arrival here, but I do not know whether used by him or not before he received the order which you wrote to him in my tent,

that he should receive them. These teams or the drivers seem unaccountably to have disappeared. With a few teams I have just received from him I am now sending over the bridge by parts, the last part to go to-morrow. I write you to-day.

H. W. BENHAM.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 20, 1864—8 p. m.

WAR DEPARTMENT:

Telegrams in relation, first, to citizens passing to Fredericksburg and Aquia; second, furnishing a guard over prisoners to Colonel Hoffman; third, taking command of troops ordered to report to Colonel Hoffman; fourth, relative to Captain Collins, all received. First. No citizens have passed to Fredericksburg without an order from the War Department. Captain Hoysredt, provost-marshal, is a very vigilant pass officer. Second. There are only 26 prisoners here. Colonel Hoffman has been furnished with the guard. Third. Complied with. Fourth. Captain Collins, Sixth Veteran Reserve Corps, was ordered by War Department to Fredericksburg, and is, I believe, still there. Six hundred and twenty-eight infantry to Army of the Potomac; one squadron of Indiana Cavalry, 150 men, to Colonel Schriver, Fredericksburg, in morning. About 600 recaptured officers and men, Colonel Talley, First Pennsylvania Reserves, in command, reported here. They go to Army of the Potomac, guarding a train.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 20, 1864—8 a. m.
(Received 9.30 a. m.)

WAR DEPARTMENT:

Nine hundred infantry arrived this morning. We are sending troops forward as fast as possible, guarding trains. I visited Aquia yesterday, and found the work rapidly progressing. One wharf nearly completed. The railroad will shortly be finished to Brooke's Station.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 23. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, *Near Spotsylvania C. H., Va., May* 20, 1864.

Fredericksburg and the forces there stationed, together with the troops guarding the line of communications between there and Belle Plain, are assigned to the command of Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie, commanding Belle Plain; and the commanding officers of the troops so assigned will report accordingly. General Abercrombie will promulgate this order and assume command at once.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 20, 1864—8 p. m.

WAR DEPARTMENT:

Six hundred and twenty-six infantry left for Army of the Potomac. One hundred and fifty cavalry to Col. E. Schriver, Fredericksburg. Six hundred recaptured prisoners for guarding train to Army of Potomac to-morrow.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NEAR SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE,
May 20, 1864—8 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding U. S. Forces, Fredericksburg:

Send as guards to trains from Fredericksburg to-morrow, the 21st instant, all troops coming to or under orders for the front. Order troops already on the way to halt where they are till trains come up, and then to accompany them as guards. Let these guards be as strong as possible. As soon as the army gets on the Fredericksburg railroad, Belle Plain and Fredericksburg will be abandoned and Port Royal made the base for our supplies. You will, therefore, make preparations to this end. On the evacuation of Fredericksburg, the work on the railroad will cease. Boats are now on their way to Fredericksburg for our wounded, and, to protect them from being molested by the enemy's roving cavalry and guerrillas, you will, as far as practicable, use your cavalry along the banks of the river.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE:

In accordance with instructions from headquarters of the army, the major-general commanding directs that you assume command of all troops heretofore ordered to Colonel Hoffman, Commissary General of Prisoners, at Belle Plain. You will at once send a battalion of 400 dismounted cavalry to report to Col. E. Schriver, military governor of Fredericksburg.

Respectfully,

J. H. TAYLOR,
Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FREDERICKSBURG, *May* 20, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 4.10 p. m.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

In relation to the apprehension of 60 prominent citizens of this city, as ordered by you, I have to report that on account of the very few males who are now present it has been impossible to get that

number ready to dispatch to-day, but I hope to send them to Washington to-morrow. There are 30 in custody, 9 of whom are suspected of having been engaged in conveying our wounded to Richmond.

ED. SCHRIVER,
Colonel and Inspector-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, May 20, 1864.

Col. EDMUND SCHRIVER,
Commanding at Fredericksburg, Va.:

Complaints have been made that numerous persons (perhaps nurses, attendants, employés, &c., with original passes to go to Fredericksburg) are going down to the Army of the Potomac, and also people go down on the steam-boats to Aquia under pretense of being employed. As no passes are granted here to visit the army, the Secretary of War directs that you station a vigilant pass officer with the pickets in the road out, to visé all passes and allow no civilians to proceed to the army who have not a proper order from this Department or from the headquarters Army of the Potomac.

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Colonel and Inspector-General.

FREDERICKSBURG, *May* 20, 1864.
(Received 7 p. m.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

The telegraphic instructions of 20th, respecting civilians going to the Army of the Potomac, have been anticipated by me, and shall have my continued attention, but some persons will escape the guards, which are not always the most reliable or trustworthy. Applications have been invariably refused by me.

ED. SCHRIVER.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fredericksburg, May 20, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: Although it ought not to be necessary for an officer of my antecedents to disprove such a charge as the one contained in your telegram of the 19th, respecting the issue of rations to citizens of Fredericksburg, I send herein the certificate of the only commissary of subsistence who has been on duty at this post, which shows the falsity of the report. I take this occasion to assure the Department that whenever I fail to perform my whole duty I shall cease to wear the Government livery and will not eat its salt.

Very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

OFFICE OF COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE,
Fredericksburg, Va., May 20, 1864.

I certify on honor that no sales of subsistence stores have been made at this post to any citizen or citizens, and that no issues of

subsistence stores have been made to any citizen or citizens, except employés of the Government, upon the order or approval of Col. Ed. Schriver, inspector-general, commanding post.

No sales of subsistence stores have to my knowledge been made at this post to any citizen or citizens, except officers of the Christian and Sanitary Commissions, for which I have received orders, but not from Colonel Schriver. For three or four days after this depot of supplies was opened sales of subsistence stores were made, upon the certificate of officers that they were for their own personal use; but believing that fraud was being perpetrated upon this department, upon presentation to Colonel Schriver and Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson, chief commissary of subsistence, Army of the Potomac, orders were issued that no sales should be made, unless the officer should apply in person and certify that they were for his own use, which orders have been strictly complied with.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. D. LEE,
Captain and Commissary of Subsistence, Post Commissary.

MAY 20, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER,
Commanding, Fredericksburg:

In answer to your letter of the 19th instant, respecting applications for permits to visit the front to obtain the bodies of officers and soldiers killed in battle, I am instructed to say that your decision in the matter is approved. The commanding general, however, wishes such permits to be given whenever it shall seem to you that it is practicable for persons making the applications to visit the battle-fields, and they are provided with the necessary facilities for removing the remains; but in the present position of the enemy there are not many of the burial places of the fallen that can safely be visited, except with a considerable force.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

POINT LOOKOUT, *May* 20, 1864.
(Received 6.50 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

I find this depot in a very satisfactory condition. The strength of the guard present for duty is 1,663. In the expectation of the arrival of more prisoners, I respectfully recommend that one old regiment, or two militia regiments, be added to the guard. I await further orders.

Respectfully,

W. HOFFMAN,
Commissary-General of Prisoners.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864—10 p. m. (Received 7.40 a. m. 21st.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

Have been fighting all day. Enemy are endeavoring to close in on our lines. We shall hold on. Have captured rebel General Wal-

ker, of Texas troops. General Sheridan is at White House, and has sent for a pontoon bridge, which I have forwarded him. Have also sent one of my army gun-boats with launches up the Rappahannock, as requested.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 20, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General BUTLER:

The Rappahannock has been scoured by the navy. Gun-boats are at Fredericksburg. To-morrow morning a fleet of supplies and for transportation of wounded will attempt to ascend the river. Can you send some of your Wiard or other gun-boats, with orders to protect the fleet, and to scour the river for boats, and prevent the planting of torpedoes?

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

IN THE FIELD, *May* 20, 1864—9 p. m.
(Received 8 a. m. 21st.)

Quartermaster-General MEIGS,
Washington:

Dispatch received. I have sent the Burnside, two launches, and 60 men to aid in scouring the River Rappahannock. She will be there in twenty-four hours.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 20, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE:

ADMIRAL: Your dispatch received. I should be happy to meet you at Bermuda Landing with an ambulance to bring you to my headquarters for conference. Will you do me the honor to ride up and lunch with me?

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FLAG-SHIP, *May* 20, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

Dispatch received 3 p. m. Have not time to visit you and return to Farrar's Island. Will take another opportunity unless you can ride over there.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 20, 1864—6 p. m.
(Received 6.50 p. m.)

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL OF THE ARMY:

Your dispatch received. General Sheridan's command is at the White House; wants pontoon train, rations and forage. Train is

at Bermuda Hundred; have sent for it. Don't know if it can be spared. Asked Captain Babcock, commanding fleet in York River, to escort stores to White House. He replied could go to West Point, but on account of torpedoes in Pamunkey was dangerous to go farther. Sent two days' forage to him—all I had at the depot. Five days' forage was called for. Expect Sheridan will come to West Point. Our boats suitable for ferrying are kept with the army up the James River. Have just received dispatch from General Butler, asking for 1,500 axes in great haste. We have none on hand; 1,000 are due on requisitions. Will you have 1,500 sent at once? Colonel Shaffer telegraphs "have no uneasiness about us; we are all right."

HERMAN BIGGS,
Chief Quartermaster.

FORT MONROE, *May* 20, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

General Sheridan's command is at White House. Have sent to me for fifteen pontoons and five days' supply of rations and forage. Have sent the rations and one day's forage (all I have) to West Point. Captain Babcock, U. S. Navy, at Yorktown, says gun-boat will escort supplies as far as West Point, as it is dangerous to go up the Pamunkey. You have at least thirteen days' supply of forage, in grain, at Bermuda Hundred, and I have written to Colonel Fuller to send me schooner with 10,000 bushels of grain; two days' supply for General Sheridan's horses. Suppose more than fifteen pontoons will be needed at West Point.

HERMAN BIGGS,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.

BERMUDA, *May* 20, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

The following is a copy of a letter just received from Lieutenant-Colonel Biggs:

I inclose herewith copy of a dispatch received from Lieutenant-Colonel Howard, quartermaster Cavalry Corps. I have sent about 6,000 bushels oats, which is all I have. This is little more than one day's supply for the corps. Please communicate with General Butler, and send me a schooner with about two days' supply for them, say 10,000 bushels. The schooner F. Merrin or Ida Jones. There should be vessels in to-day laden with forage, but all will not answer, rely on this. If they come in, however, I will forward them up the river at once. You have now at least twelve days' supply of grain at Bermuda Hundred.

The following is a copy of Colonel Howard's dispatch to Colonel Biggs:

FORT MAGRUDER, VA, *May* 19, 1864.

I have just arrived at this place on my way to Fort Monroe for the purpose of procuring five days' forage for 12,000 animals, 65,000 rations of subsistence, and a pontoon train of fifteen boats. Will you please arrange so that I may be enabled to take them immediately on my arrival to White House, on the Pamunkey?

I have sent the schooner, as requested, to report to Colonel Biggs, as we have a full supply of forage here.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.

BERMUDA, *May* 20, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

I found the admiral. I had an ambulance ready for him, but he declined to go. He evidently did not fancy the ride through the mud. He thought that the general might ride over to General Terry's quarters and communicate there. I saw a Richmond paper on board of yesterday; they acknowledge a loss of 1,500 in killed and wounded at Drewry's Bluff. No fighting by Lee on the 18th. No particular news.

Among the list of 1,000 prisoners was General Heckman, Colonel Lee, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts; Colonel White, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania; Lieutenant-Colonel Bennett, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania; Lieutenant-Colonel Bartholomew, Twenty-seventh Massachusetts; Captain Belger and others of lower rank. Heckman refused to be searched at Libby Prison, showed fight, but was threatened with the black hole and succumbed.

FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HDQRS. SIEGE ARTY., DEPT. OF VA. AND N. CAROLINA,
In the Field, May 20, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that I have this day made requisition for four 30-pounder Parrott guns for the redoubts on General Smith's left; also for ammunition sufficient to bring the supply for these rifled guns and those now on hand up to 200 rounds each; for the four howitzers which came yesterday I have made requisition for 100 rounds each, not knowing exactly what is on hand as yet. The 30-pounder Parrott which started yesterday from the landing is stuck in the mud, a mile below General Gillmore's headquarters, where it has remained since yesterday evening, although great efforts were made to get it up last night. I think, if it is intended to get a 100-pounder Parrott, that arrangement should be made for landing it at Point of Rocks, if possible. I have not put it on my requisition.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding.

IN THE FIELD, *May* 20, 1864—11.20.

Brigadier-General Weitzel will make a tour of inspection of the lines of intrenchments, and his orders and suggestions in regard to working parties and supports will be implicitly carried out by corps, division, and brigade commanders.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864—1 p. m.

General Weitzel is serving as chief engineer in absence, by sickness, of Captain Farquhar, and his orders will be mine and will be given in my name.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 20, 1864—1 p. m.

General Weitzel will please give all orders in relation to engineering operations, or other than orders to his own division, in the form following, to save all questions: "By command of Major-General Butler: G. Weitzel, brigadier-general."

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

You had better send to see that Gillmore is busily at work tonight.

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General.

SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864—11 p. m.

General BUTLER:

Be sure and have Turner near Ames at daybreak to meet an assault.

G. WEITZEL.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 62. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, Va., May 20, 1864.

The dispositions following will at once be made to resist an attack upon our lines:

I. Eighteenth Army Corps, Major-General Smith commanding:

General Martindale's division: One regiment of the First Brigade will hold the line of works in front of the brigade. The remaining regiments of the brigade will act as division reserve, and be posted in rear of the left of the division. Two regiments of the Second Brigade will hold the line of works in front of the brigade. The remaining regiments of the brigade will act as reserve to General Brooks' line, and will move, in case of an attack, to the rear of the center of that division. The picket-line of this division, when driven in, will deploy as skirmishers under cover of the counterscarp

crest of the main ditch, and will there remain. If its losses are large in coming in, it will be strengthened by sending a few men from the main line.

General Brooks' division: One brigade will hold the main line in front of the division. The remaining brigades of the division will form a division reserve, and be posted in rear of the right of the corps. The picket-line of this division will hold the edge of the ravine in its front to the last moment. If driven in, it will hold the crest of the counterscarp of the main ditch, deployed as skirmishers; being re-enforced, if much reduced, by sending a few men from the main line.

II. Tenth Army Corps, Major-General Gillmore commanding:

General Ames' division: The whole of this division, excepting two regiments, will hold the line in front of the division. The two remaining regiments will form the division reserve, and be posted in rear of and near the center of the division line.

General Terry's division: Two brigades of this division will hold the line in front of the division. The Third Brigade will form the division reserve, and be posted in rear of and near the center of the division line.

General Turner's division: This division will form the corps reserve, and be posted in rear of the center of the corps. The picket-line of the Tenth Corps will be very strong. If driven in, it will fall back as skirmishers, and take post under cover of the counterscarp crest, or behind the abatis, each man covering himself as well as possible where there is no counterscarp, and there remain, being re-enforced, if much cut up, by sending a few men from the main line.

All reserves will be posted in line during the artillery fire of the enemy, but will be formed in column, so as to be readily thrown to any threatened point. The reserve artillery will be moved so that it can most effectually bear upon any assaulting column of the enemy. All the troops will at once be encamped in the positions above indicated, excepting the two regiments of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Eighteenth Army Corps. All horses and wagons must at once be removed out of sight of the enemy, and, if practicable, out of range. The troops of this command will form every morning at 3.30 a. m., and so remain under arms until daybreak or fog lifts, until further orders. These instructions will be read to each regiment and battery in the respective corps, so as to be clearly understood.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS.
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 64. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *In the Field, Va., May* 20, 1864.

Capt. Alfred Mordecai, U. S. Ordnance Corps, is hereby announced as chief of ordnance of the army in the field. All officers on ordnance duty in the field will report to him.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 65. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *In the Field, Va., May* 20, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. Godfrey Weitzel is hereby announced as chief engineer of this department and army, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. Brig. Gen. J. H. Martindale is hereby assigned to the command of the Second Division, Tenth [Eighteenth*] Army Corps.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *May* 20, 1864—10.35 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

The weak spot in your line is just at Ames' left. I would recommend strong reserves there.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 20, 1864—11.40 a. m.
(Received 11.43 a. m.)

General GILLMORE:

I think your skirmish line near Widow Howlett's should be reestablished. It is important, for reasons in which you concur, that line should be held. It was too easily lost.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864—12.10 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I omitted to report that Brigadier-General Walker, of the rebel service, is wounded and a prisoner in charge of my medical director.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

P. S.—Two of Turner's regiments came off picket this evening; have been fighting all day, and have been allowed to remain in camp to clean up their pieces, but are to move to front in case of firing.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I understand from your order directing Brigadier-General Weitzel to inspect the intrenchments, make suggestions, and give orders, that he is on your staff (temporarily at least). Am I correct? I would respectfully suggest that †

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

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* See Davis to Smith, May 21, p. 73.

† Remainder of communication illegible.

MAY 20, 1864—2.15 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

Colonel Serrell will be ordered to report to General Weitzel for orders, with his regiment, from and after the time he has a conference with General Weitzel, which Colonel Serrell will seek at once.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
In the Trenches, May 20, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Colonel SMITH:

COLONEL: I have the honor to request that my position may be defined in orders, that there may be regularity somewhere if possible. I find various changes made in the line, places exposed, details put on and taken off by various officers, and I think it a simple duty to the country, the Tenth Corps, and myself, to make this request. I fear something may go wrong, and then it will be undetermined, perhaps, who was responsible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SERRELL,
Colonel of Engineers, New York Volunteers.

I have not an ax left to make abatis. They are all taken away but about ten, by General Butler's order, I am told. The line on the left of General Ames is all wrong. One of the two lines only should be used; the other destroyed, I think.

E. W. S.

MAY 20, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Lieutenant Michie tells me General Butler wants the advanced work on the left worked at all night to-night. The details for it should be provided. I have an officer there to-day. Shall I have one there to-night?

ED. W. SERRELL,
Colonel of Engineers, New York Volunteers.

[Indorsement.]

Act upon such directions as General Weitzel gives you.

By order of General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Received 3.30, and countermanded by General Gillmore in person.

E. W. S.

MAY 20, 1864—3.15 p. m.

General Gillmore may revoke the order for Colonel Serrell to report to General Weitzel, but must see to it that Colonel Serrell sends no more messages like the one sent to department headquarters.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Colonel Serrell will observe the directions herein contained.
By order of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: I find the enemy in strong force, and am losing heavily. The left seems to be safe enough. A prisoner says their line runs from one river to the other, with rifle-pits, &c., and the number supposed to be there is about 20,000 men. I think if you wish the attack pushed, I should have more troops. General Terry has just informed me that the right of his picket-line is threatened by a mass of troops, said to be a brigade.

Very respectfully, yours,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

4.45 P. M.

General SMITH:

You will send two brigades to the relief of General Gillmore.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—4.55 p. m.

I have one regiment not in line. Every regiment beyond that leaves a gap in my line. I shall give the orders to get ready, but shall not order them to report till I get other notice.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

[Third indorsement.]

The enemy is very strong, I have no doubt, and General Gillmore appears to think that additional forces must be sent him, or he will have to draw off. I cannot decide here. The loss is heavy.

J. W. SHAFFER.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have my trenches now garrisoned by the minimum force to make them safe. One full brigade at least should be sent to me in order to drive the enemy from the rifle-pits they captured this morning. If it is sent at once to replace my troops in the intrenchments, I will take off the latter and recapture the position lost this morning.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, Va., May 20, 1864—5.30 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

If with the force you have you have been unable to force your line back, I think it may cost too much risk to attempt it farther with the force which can be sent from General Smith's line. Can you hold what you have? Are the enemy pressing you if you retire?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

The commanding general desires that you charge your division commanders to make all preparations against surprise to-night.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864—8.05 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

The gun-boats would assist you much, if you would order General Terry to slash down that ravine on his right at once.

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

Colonel Abbot, First Connecticut Artillery, reports that a 30-pounder Parrott is stuck in the mud about 1 mile below your headquarters. Please detail sufficient men to haul it to the desired position.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch relative to extricating the 30-pounder gun is received. All my men have fought or worked all day, or will work all night. I would suggest that the detail be made from some other force. Please answer.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864—10.50 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

Your dispatch dated 7.30 p. m. was received at 10.30. You had better draw in your line according to the suggestions of my dispatch of 5.30 p. m. The weakness of your works requires this and that we take no risks. You will see to it that strong working parties are kept busy upon the line during the night. Guard against surprise.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864—11 p. m. (Received 11.25 p. m.)

General GILLMORE:

You will have Turner's division in the immediate rear of Ames', ready to support him in case of a possible assault by the enemy at daybreak. I think this important. Acknowledge receipt.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

MAY 20, 1864—11.25 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatch of 11 p. m. received. Turner's division is bivouacked in the open field in rear of Ames', in readiness to support him. Working parties are out, and will be all night.

Q. A. GILLMORE.

MAY 20, 1864—12 midnight.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your two notes of this evening. I found great difficulty in getting 600 men from the different commands to-night. These, however, are at work. They have some of them been fighting to-day. I do not know which work General Weitzel orders first, not having read his dispatch, when I found I had opened it by mistake. Is 600 enough for to-night? I think it well to ask for details from Eighteenth if we are to fight again to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SERRELL,
Colonel of Engineers, New York Volunteers.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

SIR: In accordance with orders from Major-General Butler, I have given the following orders to Brigadier-General Ames and

Brigadier-General Terry, of your command, in regard to their line of intrenchments:

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding Division, Tenth Army Corps:

SIR: By direction of the major-general commanding, I would respectfully suggest the following improvements on your line:

(3) First, there should be a small redan at the intersection of your line with Brooks. A piece of artillery should be placed in the face toward you to sweep the front of your line. (3) The logs lying parallel to the ravine in front of your left should at once be rolled into the ravine. (2) That portion of the main line where the Thirty-third New York Battery and the Parrott guns of the Connecticut Heavy Artillery are should be inclosed to form a good large redoubt, with a high command, say about 8 feet. (2) There should be a strong abatis in front of your whole line, and no fence rails should be permitted to be used in building this abatis. (1) Your whole line should be raised and strengthened from the outside, as much as possible and with all dispatch, especially in front of and on the right of the Third Rhode Island Artillery and colored cavalry howitzer battery. (3) Artillery should all be placed in embrasure. (1) The traverses should be strengthened. (1) Redoubt on ridge in front of your line should be completed as quickly as possible. (2) All trees within cannon range of any part of the work should be felled. (3) All rubbish in front of the line should be removed. (1) To hold firmly with skirmishers the prolongation of the ridge on which is situated the redoubt, which is at the intersection of yours and Terry's lines.

Your line could be much improved by making a flank from the right of the Third Rhode Island battery to the rear, and then run your line so as to strike the high redoubt on the right of your line. This line should be so run, if you have the labor to do it, and then the line in front destroyed.

The above will be done by order of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding Division, Tenth Army Corps:

SIR: By direction of the major-general commanding this department, I respectfully suggest the following alterations on your lines:

(1) You should at once cut down all the trees in front of the right of your line. (1) The trees in the ravine on which your right rests should be cut down from the bottom of the ravine to the crest on the side toward you, leaving but a thin fringe near the top to screen your works. (2) You should construct rifle-pits on the crest of the slope of the ravine nearest to you, and hold this line of rifle-pits with a strong line of skirmishers. (2) All rails used in the constructions of your abatis should be removed and branches of trees substituted. (1) Your whole line should be strengthened, especially that part which crosses the low ground in your center.

The above will be done by order of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

GENERAL: In answer to your dispatch of this evening I desire to say that I have numbered the different suggestions in the above communication, to give my idea of the order in which they should be carried out. I do not think, from my own experience here during the last forty-eight hours, that there is more than one-half as much work as you estimate.

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—1.15 p. m.

General FOSTER:

Colonel Fairchild reports his pickets driven in; wants two regiments to support him. Have sent the orderly reporting it to find General Gillmore or you.

I. R. SEALY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 20, 1864.

Col. H. R. GUSS,
First Brigade,
Colonel DRAKE,
Second Brigade:

COLONEL: Information having been received at corps headquarters that a surprise on the part of the enemy is anticipated, the general commanding directs me to instruct you to have your command well in hand to prevent the success of an attack. Especial vigilance will be exercised by the troops in the line of intrenchments, and one or more officers will constantly be on guard to give the alarm should the enemy make his appearance with a view to an assault.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

General Butler desires to know the cause of heavy firing on your left.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864.

General BUTLER:

I think the gun-boats fired one or two shots; no firing now. All quiet.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

MAY 20, 1864.

General SMITH:

Keep your brigades in readiness until further orders.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

The brigades ordered to Gillmore will not be wanted. General Butler wishes that you would charge your division commanders to make every provision against surprise to-night.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 19. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., May* 20, 1864.

I. Until further orders there will be two hospital organizations for general purposes in the Eighteenth Corps. The medical officers will be drawn from regiments, but as far as practicable each regiment will have one medical officer left with it for duty in camp, on the march, or in action, but during a battle this officer is not expected to be under severe fire. Without being too far to the rear to be of assistance, he should remain in a position partially sheltered. The commanding officer of the regiment should assign to the medical officer a sheltered location during action.

II. To prevent a depletion of the ranks by the long absence in general hospitals and convalescent camps of soldiers sent to general hospitals for slight ailments, a corps hospital will be established at or near the Point of Rocks, on the Appomattox River. Excepting slight cases of illness, which can be taken care of in the regimental camps, all the sick of the camps will be sent to this hospital, and no sick soldier will be transferred to a general hospital at Fortress Monroe, or elsewhere, unless he cannot reasonably be expected to be fit for duty in one month's time, or the transfer is necessary to recovery, and then only on the order of the corps medical director.

III. Sick men before admission into the corps hospital should ordinarily be furnished with passes from the medical officer on duty with his regiment, countersigned by its commander. Serious cases of illness, or those where there is an obvious propriety in recovering for treatment, may be admitted, at the option of the surgeon in charge, who in all cases will use his best discretion in admitting or refusing. Where malingering or straggling is suspected, he will return the men under guard to the command to which they belong.

IV. The chief quartermaster of this corps will turn over to the surgeon in charge one quartermaster's wagon with 4 horses and equipments complete. The chief of ambulances will turn over to the same one serviceable ambulance and 2 horses, with necessary harness and appurtenance.

V. A detachment, consisting of 1 lieutenant, 1 sergeant, 2 corporals, and 16 privates, will be assigned to the hospital for necessary guard and fatigue duty. The latter will embrace the burial of the dead and such other labor as may be dictated by the surgeon in charge. The quartermaster and commissary supplies for the hospital will be issued by the proper officers on the requisitions or returns of the surgeon in charge. The commissary department will carry out all existing instructions regarding the hospital fund.

VI. A chaplain will be detailed as chaplain of the hospital. He will perform his duties under the direction of the surgeon in charge.

VII. The surgeon in charge will be under the orders of the corps commander and his medical director only.

Organization to meet the requirements of the battle-field:

A. A battle-field hospital for the corps will be established whenever a battle takes place; its medical officers and attendants will also be drawn from the troops comprising this command. It will be organized as far as practicable on the basis of the Surgeon-General's Circular No. 4, series of 1863, modified by Circular No. 5, issued by the medical director of this corps May 5, 1864, and by the further modification contained in this order. There will be 1 surgeon in charge, 4 surgeons as operators, 1 chaplain, 2 assistant surgeons as

assistants to the surgeon in charge, 8 assistant surgeons as assistants to the operating surgeon, 4 hospital stewards, 3 cooks, and 40 attendants. The plan for internal management of this hospital will be furnished the surgeon in charge by the medical director of the corps. A guard of 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, and 12 privates will be detailed to drive off stragglers, and keep up the discipline of the hospital. None but men on duty in the ambulance corps, members of bands, regimental hospital attendants (not assigned to hospital duty), and men belonging to the drum corps, will bring wounded to the hospital.

B. Medical officers, the chaplain's attendants, and guard, as soon as the wounded are sent to the corps hospital, or on board of transports, will be returned by the medical director to their regiments, with the exception of the chief surgeon of the battle-field hospital, who will necessarily be obliged to look after and take care of the Government property in his charge.

C. All cases of amputation must either be first designated for operation by the surgeon in charge of the hospital, or be determined upon by a majority vote of a board of at least 3 surgeons to be detailed by the surgeon in charge, or the corps medical director.

By command of Major-General Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 20, 1864.
(Received 6.15 p. m.

General HINKS:

A body of about 300 cavalry is said to be passing toward City Point in rear of the woods on our front. A few shots were just fired at our vedettes on the Petersburg road.

DUNCAN,
Colonel.

BERMUDA, *May* 20, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I can send the Burnside, with one 12-pounder howitzer, two launches, and 60 men, at 8 o'clock this evening. She will have to stop at Fort Monroe for pilot and it will take twenty-four hours to reach the Rappahannock. Will that do? Answer to me at Bermuda Hundred.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 20, 1864—9 p. m.

General GRAHAM,
Bermuda Landing:

Let the Burnside go with the force named, to make every diligence and report to the commander of the Potomac Flotilla. Send her under an experienced commander.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 20, 1864—6 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER:

I propose to move my entire command across the river to-morrow, if there is no objection, in order to get a permanent camp where I can refit men and horses. At present the command is very much scattered. A portion is already across the river, a portion is still at Portsmouth, and the main portion is here. Let me know if the measure is approved.

KAUTZ,
General.

MAY 20, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Captain DODGE, *Assistant Quartermaster:*

Have you received any orders regarding transportation of men and horses from Portsmouth? If so, let me know and I will send officers to bring them up.

KAUTZ,
General.

MAY 20, 1864.

General KAUTZ:

I have received no orders regarding transportation of men and horses from Portsmouth.

DODGE,
Captain.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 20, 1864—6 p. m. (Received 7.25 a. m. 21st.)

Brigadier-General SHEPLEY, *Norfolk, Va.:*

There are not 1,000 rebel cavalry south of the James, and they are Dearing's brigade, jaded by a 200-miles march from North Carolina. You can hold Norfolk, as long as we are here, with a corporal's guard.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
In the Field, May 21, 1864—7 a. m. (Received 10.35 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I fear there is some difficulty with the forces at City Point which prevents their effective use. The fault may be with the commander, and it may be with his subordinates. General Smith, whilst a very able officer, is obstinate, and is likely to condemn whatever is not suggested by himself. Either those forces should be so occupied as to detain a force nearly equal to their own, or the garrison in the intrenchments at City Point should be reduced to a minimum and the remainder ordered here. I wish you would send a competent officer there to inspect and report by telegraph what is being done, and what in his judgment it is advisable to do.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 21, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Near Spotsylvania, Va.:

Orders in accordance with your letter of yesterday have been sent to General Hunter. Generals Meigs and Barnard have been sent to James River, to make the investigations and reports, as directed in your telegram of 7 a. m. to-day.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, *May* 21, 1864—9.40 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Near Spotsylvania, Va.:

If the depots at Fredericksburg, Belle Plain, and Aquia Creek are to be transferred to Port Royal, please let me know immediately, as troops and supplies are being sent every hour to the former places, and much delay will be caused by landing and re-embarking.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Direct General Warren so soon as Wright has moved up to this place, that he move forward to Harris' Store, to which place he will be followed by Wright. On reaching that place he will endeavor to open communication with Hancock at Milford. Direct Wright to move up to this place as soon as Burnside opens the road, and on reaching here to notify Warren of the fact, and then follow Warren in support to Harris' Store. Order General Torbert, after leaving 500 men with Hancock, to proceed with the balance to Bethel Church, reporting his arrival to headquarters, which will be established there. Direct Warren to send his cavalry forward to seize the bridge across the Ta River, and a portion of them to picket the bridge at Downer's on his left flank. Warren should also move out beyond Catlett's on the left hand road, and, if possible, secure and hold the crossing of the Ta River.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The prisoners taken from the cavalry and brought in this evening are from Chambliss' brigade, Ninth, Tenth, and Thirteenth Virginia Cavalry. One of them is a first lieutenant, and I gathered from a conversation with him that William Henry (Rooney) Lee is in command of the above and Rosser's brigades, which are all the cavalry with the enemy. The enemy were apprised of the

movement of Hancock as early as 2 o'clock this morning. From other prisoners, who state the circumstances in detail, I learn that night before last, during Ewell's attack, Longstreet's corps was moved from the enemy's extreme right to the rear of his left, and at a late hour of the night moved back again. I state this because there are reports in the papers that a part of Longstreet's corps, not included in Pickett's division, has appeared in front of General Butler, whereas our examinations account daily for Field's and McLaws' divisions. An intelligent prisoner reports Johnson's division to have numbered (prior to night before last) 1,160 muskets, and says it suffered then also. I transmit Richmond paper 19th instant, giving some account of Sheridan's return.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

[Indorsement.]

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

Please return after reading.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BEVERLY HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
May 21, 1864—6 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

It is very smoky this a. m. There is no change in the enemy's guns or troops in front of the Fifth Corps.

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

MAY 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The accompanying messages were intercepted at rebel signal station on the Catlett farm, south of Guiney's Station.

B. F. FISHER,
Captain.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

MAY 21, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General LEE:

About 80 men in front. Regiments of infantry in the rear seem to be cooking. A long column of infantry and wagons were passing for hours upon the Bowling Green road; brigade of cavalry in advance.

B.,
Colonel.
DAVIS,
Signal Officer.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

MAY 21, 1864—10 a. m.

General LEE:

Seems to be a continuous movement here, and has been seen since the hour before day. A great deal of cavalry and artillery interspersed with large body of infantry. Not very well closed up. Their right is now passing, 1 mile below Guiney's Station, advancing to Milford. No more in sight above Guiney's Station.

TURNER.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

MAY 21, 1864—11 a. m.

General LEE:

Small body of cavalry passed since last dispatch.

B.,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—8 p. m.

Major KERWIN, *Commanding, &c.:*

Instead of reporting to these headquarters to-morrow morning as already directed, the commanding general orders that you remain until you are further instructed in your present position, and watch the roads you are now guarding. You will send an officer to these headquarters early to-morrow morning to receive instructions for your command.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—1.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Although the cavalry were ordered to start at 11 o'clock, they did not leave camp until 12.30. I have been massing my troops for an hour about 3 miles out, and am just putting the head of my column on the road again, as the cavalry is just past. The cavalry were issuing rations, and many were unsaddled when the head of my column arrived at the road which leads off from the Telegraph road.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—4.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The head of the column has arrived about 1½ miles beyond Guiney's. The cavalry have seen three or four pickets near Guiney's, who fired their pieces and left.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—5.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Torbert sent a small detachment of cavalry to hold the Guiney Bridge from Spotsylvania. The detachment was too small for the purpose and our cavalry was driven back. I have directed each division commander to hold the road until all the trains are passed, and I have ordered General Torbert to send an adequate force for the purpose; but I will notify you, in case of any trains passing this way after my troops and trains have passed.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch of 4.30 a. m. has been received. I am instructed to inform you that everything is quiet here just now. The enemy is still in force in front of General Warren, although there are indications that he made a considerable movement to his right last night. General Warren's corps will move at 10 a. m. and proceed down the Telegraph road to open communication with you. General headquarters for the present will be near the Fifth Corps, on the Telegraph road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 21, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I am within 1 mile of Bowling Green. I hear our cavalry firing some small-arms, occasionally artillery; I suppose at Milford. The negroes all along the road in this vicinity give the same report, that General Hoke arrived at Milford yesterday with from 10,000 to 13,000 men (re-enforcements for Lee), and they went across the river.

I send you a paper of the 19th, by which it seems our movement to the right was conjectured. A signal station at Guiney's or opposite has been signaling our movements since daylight. The negroes also say we were expected, and that some artillery was placed in position at Milford.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—9.45 a. m. (Received 3 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you hold Guiney's Bridge until the arrival of the head of General Warren's column. He moves at 10 o'clock, and the head of his column may be there by 2 or 3 o'clock this afternoon.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I have the honor to report that I have driven the enemy (all infantry) across the Milford bridge, and am holding the bridge. The enemy's infantry are on the opposite side of the river, and I doubt whether I can drive them away. I have captured 66 prisoners, men, and 6 officers belonging to the Eleventh and Seventh Virginia, Kemper's old brigade.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

Forwarded to General Meade, 10.30 a. m. Messenger could not get through.

MAY 21, 1864—9.45 [a. m.].

General HANCOCK:

General Torbert has driven the enemy across the river and has 42 prisoners. It seems that a part of Pickett's division passed up yesterday, and a few of them were left here to hold the crossing. All the prisoners belong to the Eleventh Virginia Infantry except one. I do not think that more than 2,500 men passed up yesterday. The general will see whether it is practicable for him to cross the river. If not, I will have an examination made as to the best place for a bridge.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

There was no cavalry here except some irregular cavalry, say 100, in and about Bowling Green and Milford. One prisoner says Pickett's division has been broken up and part given to Hoke.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Milford, May 21, 1864—12 m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Barlow's division is across the Mattapony. I have directed him to get a good position about a mile out. General Gibbon follows immediately. The skirmishers (infantry) driven

over the river by Torbert left their tools in a rifle-pit near the bridge at which they were working. I do not anticipate any serious obstacle, at least until our troops get in position. I send a newspaper of the 20th.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 21, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The bridge over the Mattapony was preserved by our cavalry, although a good many planks were taken up. The bridge, however, has been repaired. The march has been very trying upon the troops, up all night, and to-day, very hot. Torbert sent cavalry to Burke's and to Bethel Church. I have sent out cavalry to connect with them, watching the road passing in my front. All my troops except Birney are on the other side, and he will be there shortly. I shall pass over everything and leave Torbert to guard the rear. If the enemy passes in my front within sight, I shall attack him.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Coates' House, near Milford, May 21, 1864—6.15 p. m.
(Received 4 a. m. 22d.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: As one of my couriers has been captured to-day, and several others with dispatches have been turned back, and as the parties sent from here report seeing your orderlies fired on when coming this way, I have directed General Torbert to send a force of cavalry to open communication, and send herewith a brief sketch of the dispatches that have failed to reach you.

At 9.45 General Torbert reported that he had driven the enemy across the Mattapony at Milford. This force consisted of the Seventh and Eleventh Virginia Regiments, Kemper's old brigade, of Pickett's division, which had just come up (say last evening) from Plymouth, N. C., and Fort Darling. About 100 of them were on the left bank in rifle-pits; of these, 67 privates are captured and 7 commissioned officers.

General Torbert did not feel justified in attempting a crossing with cavalry, as the south side is densely wooded. The infantry was, therefore, thrown across, and advancing rapidly, gave the enemy only time to escape from the rifle-pits they were digging, leaving their intrenching tools. The bridge was saved. Some of the planks had to be replaced. At 12 m. Barlow's division was across and Gibbon's was closely following. A pretty good position was at once secured about 1½ miles from the river, and it is being intrenched. I am now all over the river with my bridge train and wagon train. One regiment holds the north bank of the river at the bridge. General Torbert sent cavalry in the direction of Burke's and Bethel

Church. I shall send out a squadron to picket the roads passing in my front. My headquarters are at the Coates house, near the right of my line. The march has been a fatiguing one.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

P. S.—About 50 cavalrymen attacked my picket-line at 5.12, but were at once driven away.

[Indorsement.]

General [GRANT]:

The within just received. The officer bringing it says it is 16 miles to Hancock. I have retained him to send orders back. Warren was ordered to hold all he had gotten yesterday and to send support to his cavalry at the Ta. I have not ordered him to move till you shall so direct, and indicate the road. If he does move, he had better have another corps in rear in support.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 4.15 a. m. 22d.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I am directed to say that the last dispatch received from you was dated 9 a. m. to-day, and to inform you that it has been ascertained from an intercepted dispatch that at any rate one of your notes to these headquarters has fallen into the hands of the enemy. The commanding general considers that with the cavalry force placed at your disposal, you should have kept open communication with him during the day, and he wishes you to use this cavalry force in keeping up frequent communication with these headquarters, and also with General Warren, who is now near Guiney's Bridge. The road is not safe for small parties. It has been necessary to detach a squadron of the provost guard at these headquarters to send this dispatch to you.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—8.20 p. m. (Received 4 a. m. 22d.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The only incidents occurring since I came here and took position were a few shells thrown into the heavy artillery on my left to-night. This may have come from the troops from Pole Cat Station, as I heard some musketry in that direction, apparently coming from a line of nervous pickets. I have sent out to investigate it. I am very anxious to hear from you, and have ordered General Torbert to send the mail through without fail.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864. (Received 4 a. m. 22d.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I forward to you a negro, who has just come in with 3 others from Pole Cat Station, 5 miles from here. Hoke's division arrived there about 12 m. to-day, and said he was going to clean the party out at Milford Station, supposing it was only cavalry. You may expect them if they come up on your left. I tell him that after you get through questioning him you will let him return to this place, where he lives. Will you be kind enough to send the inclosed letter to army headquarters when you send a dispatch. Everything is quiet here.

Yours, &c.,

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Cavalry.

[Indorsement.]

8 P. M.

This division came from Drewry's Bluff to-day, the negro states. Respectfully forwarded.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—7.50 p. m.

Some contrabands just brought in state that Hoke's division arrived at 12 o'clock to-day from Drewry's Bluff and may be expected on our left, as believing that but a small force was here, they said they were coming to "clear out the place." This is respectfully communicated for the information of Major-General Birney, Brigadier-General Gibbon, and Brigadier-General Tyler. General Birney will please have a picket-line established from General Tyler's left to the river. General Tyler will take such measures by placing his troops in position as may be necessary to repel any attack of this sort with certainty.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Coates' House, May 21, 1864—6.10 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

The major-general commanding directs that you leave a regiment of infantry on the other side of the river to protect the bridge in case the cavalry should be ordered away or driven in.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General Mott, Third Brigade, will comply with the above order and send a regiment at once.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. BIRNEY,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—3.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The following just received:

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
May 21, 1864.

Reveille was beat in our front by the enemy at 1.30. The enemy seems unusually busy chopping, &c. Picket-line quiet.

P. T. HANLEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Outposts, First Division.

G. K. WARREN.

[Indorsement.]

Generals Warren and Wright have been ordered to endeavor to drive in the enemy's pickets by advancing theirs.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—5.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs that you push forward your pickets, and see if you can drive the enemy's pickets in.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

(Same to eneral Wright.)

MAY 21, 1864—6 a. m.

General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Has any movement of the enemy been observed in your front this morning?

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

BEVERLY HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
May 21, 1864—6 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

It is very smoky this a. m. There is no change in enemy's guns or troops in front of Fifth Corps.

Very respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 21, 1864—6.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Just received following:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS—6.30 A. M.

General WARREN:

The enemy is in force in my front, his artillery in plain sight, and before I advance my pickets, I desire this fact to be known. A far stronger force than my picket-line is visible.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The object of advancing your pickets is to ascertain as far as such an operation will admit, the force and position of the enemy. If you are satisfied the enemy is in as full force as he was yesterday, and are positive of this without advancing your pickets, they need not be advanced, although no objection is seen to their being pushed out even under the above condition.

MEADE.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN:

General Warren directs that your pickets fire away occasionally at the enemy's, and ascertain all they can and report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that if you are not attacked before 10 o'clock this morning you withdraw at that hour and proceed to the Telegraph road at Massaponax Church and follow that road, crossing the Po at Stanard's Mill, and take position on the right bank of the Po. If practicable, you will relieve the portion of the Sixth Corps serving with you before withdrawing. Be careful not to pass across or on the edge of the open fields of Anderson's farm, as they are in full view of the enemy. Upon withdrawing, you will direct Major Forsyth to report to General Wright. At Massaponax Church you will find Lieutenant-Colonel Pope, with a cavalry detachment, who is directed to report to you. You will use him in establishing and keeping up communication between your right and General Burnside's command. General Burnside is in position on the left of Wright.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—7.35 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The cavalry under Lieutenant-Colonel Pope will also be used by you in establishing and keeping up communication with General Hancock, who is ordered to take position on the right bank of the Po, near Milford Station.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864.

General WARREN:

Please give the telegraph party at your headquarters timely notice of your movement that the wire may be taken up. The work, I suppose, should be begun the moment your troops commence the movement.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864.

General WARREN:

An hour and a half will be the least time in which the line between here and your headquarters can be taken up.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 21, 1864—8.25 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

What time would you like to have my picket-line withdrawn?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

You can withdraw your pickets as soon as your column is well under way. Wright is notified that you withdraw at 10 o'clock. If you can let me know about what hour your pickets will be withdrawn, I will notify General Wright so that he can arrange accordingly.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 21, 1864—8.35 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Can be able to withdraw my pickets at 11 o'clock.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General WARREN:

What road do you intend to withdraw by? The ford over the Ny near the Anderson house is very bad—almost impassable from holes. If you move in that direction you had better keep down until you reach the roads and bridges made by Wright from the Myers house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

General HUMPHREYS:

I have made crossing places myself. I expect to keep between the Ny and the Anderson house—out of sight. I shall begin promptly at 10 a. m., if General Russell gets out of my way. I relieved him at once on receipt of your order this morning. No demonstration by the enemy yet.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—9.45 a. m.

General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs that instead of the route indicated to you, you will proceed to Guiney's Bridge by way of Massaponax Church and Guiney's Station, instead of taking the Telegraph road from Massaponax Church. Report your arrival there and what you meet. The bridge is now held by the enemy, supposed to be cavalry.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

MAY 21, 1864—10 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Russell got his orders one hour and forty minutes ago and yet he has not begun to pass. As his road crosses mine I have to wait for him. I am all ready to move.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The cavalry assigned to you, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Pope, is at Massaponax Church. If you do not go to that place, you will please send an officer to Colonel Pope with your instructions for the cavalry.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following corrected report of prisoners taken on the 19th instant. Heavy artillery brigade, Colonel Kitching commanding, 70, sent direct to headquarters Army of the Potomac; Third Brigade, Second Division, Colonel Bowerman commanding, 34, sent to headquarters Army of the Potomac; Third Division, Brigadier-General Crawford commanding, 12, sent to headquarters Army of the Potomac May 20, 1864; total, 116.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs that you send your cavalry to seize the bridge across the Ta, and a portion of them to picket at Downer's Bridge. He directs that you move out beyond Catlett's, taking the left-hand road from that place, and send forward a force in advance to hold the crossing of Ta River. The crossing referred to is that which leads to Madison's Ordinary. General Burnside is ordered to advance and take possession of the crossing of the Ta at Thornburg.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Wright follows Burnside.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs you to have a brigade this side of the bridge to protect these headquarters, which are established at the point where the road branches to cross Guiney's Bridge.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 21, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have directed Major Mitchell to stop the Maryland Brigade, which follows my wagon train, and protect your camp. I have told the cavalry officer to push out to seize the crossing of the Ta River, and will send a brigade after it at once. I do not understand

whether you intend me to move my whole command across the Ta River or stop to-night in front of Catlett's. I will have time to get an answer from you before I can get my troops in hand on this side.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Comdg. Fifth Corps:*

Your dispatch received. It was not intended that you should move your whole command across the Ta River, but that you should move it beyond Catlett's on the left-hand road, and send a sufficient force across the Ta at the bridge to hold it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 21, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Let us have anything that transpires. Michler was sent on road from Catlett's to blacksmith shop on Telegraph road crossing the Po; not heard from yet.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have sent General Griffin, who is just arriving, to camp on the road you designated to the Ta River about one-third of a mile beyond the forks of the road. General Crawford holds out on the right fork 1½ miles, and near him are the vedettes of the enemy's cavalry. I sent my escort out till they ran against them. I sent some cavalry to picket the bridge below, and the rest, followed by Kitching's brigade, I have sent to the crossing of the Ta, about 2¾ miles from here. I have not yet heard the result. Major Roebling is with the party. I saw Mrs. Schooler, whose husband is a captain in Lee's army, and she was utterly surprised at our appearance here. General Crawford sends me the following: "From information I have received, the enemy are intrenched at Stanard's Mill on the road turning to the right at the Mud Tavern, about 3 miles from here." I will send you word again as soon as I hear from Kitching. I shall not be able to communicate with General Burnside to-night.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DETACHMENT,
Whipple's Store, May 21, 1864—9 p. m.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, FIFTH ARMY CORPS:

SIR: I have the honor to report that, with my command, I crossed the Ta without opposition, and moved to Whipple's Store. Thence

sent a squadron to Downer's Bridge, picketing thence to the infantry left. I also have pickets to the right of this place for 1½ miles, and am camped with reserve on the south side of the Ta near the road. I desire also to represent that my command is out of forage and rations. I sent for both this a. m., but the commissary reports that the trains of Cavalry Corps moved this a. m. to Bowling Green, and, therefore, he was not able to get from them the supplies I expected.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

E. M. POPE,
Lieutenant-Colonel Eighth New York Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Major Roebling has just returned. Colonel Kitching has gained the high bank beyond the Ta. His command nearly all gave out on the march, so that he reached there with about 500 men. Our cavalry preceded him and met with no opposition to speak of. How much force must I send to re-enforce him? Will it be safe for the rest of the army for me to send Cutler's division? As you know the relations of all parts of the army it is probably a question for you to decide rather than me. After you cross the Ta there is a low, open bottom extending 2 miles up the stream, 1 mile wide, then you ascend a gentle slope that is covered with oak wood, then from the summit is an open level country. At the summit is Madison's Store, which is 1½ miles from Nancy Wright's, and here Kitching and the cavalry are, 5 miles from the Guiney Bridge. I believe the bridge over the Ta is called Hamilton's Bridge. It is a rickety truss bridge unfit for artillery, but the ford is good and the stream is about the size of the Ny at our last camp.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—Pope's cavalry went out to Nancy Wright's and then came back to Madison's. Mrs. Washington, who sent the note I forwarded to you, lives about a mile south of Guiney's Bridge. I have sent the colored man up.

MAY 21, 1864—10.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

Your dispatch by Captain Cadwalader received. Under the present circumstances Cutler's division had better remain where it is.

11.15 P. M.

P. S.—The commanding general directs that you send your trains back across the Mattapony to Guiney's Station at once, or that vicinity. The information we have is to the effect that Burnside and Wright cannot unite with you by way of Stanard's Mill, and they will have to be brought round. Therefore withdraw Kitching, leav-

ing the cavalry at the bridge and take up as strong a position as you can find, with your whole force in the vicinity of Catlett's, withdrawing Crawford as far back as necessary for that purpose, but leaving some mounted men or infantry where he is.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864.

The command will be prepared to move to-morrow by 4 a. m., the object being to take up at that time a defensive position in this vicinity to receive an attack of the enemy should he advance in this direction. Further instructions will be sent at the time as regards the position to be taken. This is rendered necessary by difficulties having been met by General Burnside in getting to the position assigned him.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
Saturday, May 21, 1864.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: From the information I have received the enemy are intrenched at Stanard's Mill, on the road turning to the right at the Mud Tavern, about 3 miles from here.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

SATURDAY, *May* 21, 1864—5 p. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have the ridge; do you wish me to go farther?

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH INDIANA VOLUNTEERS,
May 21, 1864.

Captain WOOD,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., 1st Brig., 4th Div., 5th Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: The flag of the Fiftieth Virginia was captured in the first day's battle by Private John N. Opel, of G Company, Seventh Indiana. I regret that it has not been forwarded before this, but it was sent to the rear and only brought up this morning.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. C. BANTA,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

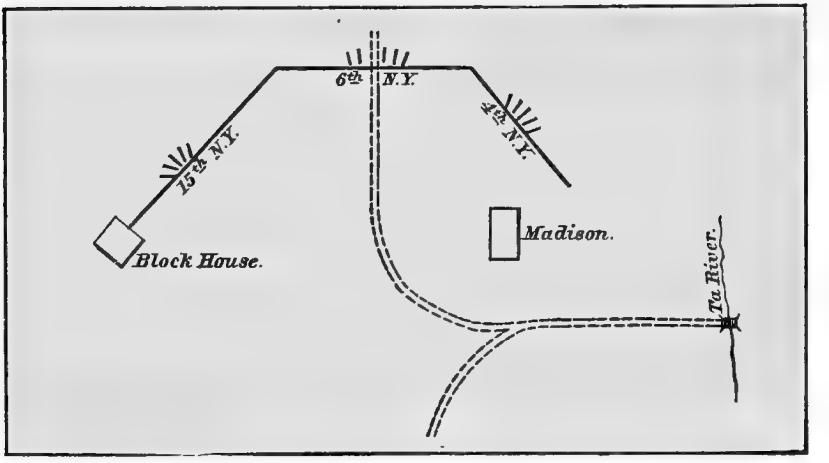
HEADQUARTERS BRIGADE HEAVY ARTILLERY,
Madison's, May 21, 1864—9 p. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I have reached this place with my command, and have taken up my position as below. My force is quite insufficient to hold the position against a determined attack, as this country is entirely open. I am throwing up a rail barricade (having no tools), and will hold on as long as possible. I would ask, general, that when it can be done with propriety, my command be allowed some time to rest, as we have been doing picket duty so constantly that officers and men are completely exhausted. If I can find any cattle here I will appropriate them as you suggest.

Respectfully,

J. HOWARD KITCHING.



HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864. (Received 5.30 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

At 2 a. m. the rebel bugles in front of the Third Division were blown. At 3 their drums beat and they began moving toward their right, apparently moving artillery, wagons, and cattle. The sound of the movement passed first along the line from their left toward the right, and then appeared to be toward their rear. They were chopping during the night in front of our extreme left. This is the report of the officer in charge of the Third Division pickets. He says he would have reported earlier, but that he did not ascertain the facts definitely for some time, as the sounds were a good deal confused.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

SIXTH CORPS, *May* 21, 1864—7.10 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The general officer of the day reports that since sending report this morning he had discovered that the rebel picket-line in front of

Third Division is protected by works of such heights that they have shelter-tents behind them almost concealed, and they have as strong a line in men as I have. About 400 yards in rear of them are some works with two embankments that look as if intended for guns. Between their picket-line and these works is a perfectly clear field. I have suspended the advance until the relieving of the pickets, which is now commencing, is completed.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT, *Commanding Sixth Corps:*

Major-General Warren is directed to withdraw at 10 o'clock, if not attacked before that time. If practicable he will return to you the portion of your corps serving with him before he withdraws. He will direct Major Forsyth, commanding cavalry detachment, picketing on our right, to report to you. Upon the withdrawal of General Warren you will occupy the line selected yesterday.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SIXTH CORPS,
May 21, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I shall be ready to occupy my new line on the withdrawal of General Warren. I have made no arrangements for occupying position at Anderson's house, understanding from the major-general commanding that it was not important to hold it. Is this right? If desired, I could occupy it with a couple of brigades and a battery, but doubt the propriety of doing so.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—8.10 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT, *Comdg. Sixth Army Corps:*

Your dispatch of 7.45 a. m. received. The commanding general directs that you use your own judgment in relation to occupying the Anderson house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Mnjor-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 21, 1864.—8.10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

If you can spare an engineer officer to remain with me, I shall be glad to have him. Lieutenant Benyaurd, who has been with me all night, but who has gone back to camp, has been of great service.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 21, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT:

Lieutenant Benyaurd is ordered to join you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—8.25 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that you will probably move to-night and follow Hancock's route via Massaponax Church, Guiney's Station, and Bowling Green to Milford Station and over the Mattapony. General Burnside would move at the same time as yourself, taking the route between the Ny and the Po, crossing the latter at Stanard's Mill, following Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SIXTH CORPS,
May 21, 1864—8.25 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Can you tell me about how many cavalry in Major Forsyth's command?

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The cavalry detachment consists of 450 men. They can only be used for pickets, vedettes, and scouts.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

General Warren reports that he will be able to withdraw his pickets at 11 o'clock.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

No dispatches have been received from you since the movement of to-day commenced. The commanding general desires that you

will report by Captain Bates the condition of affairs with yourself, as also with General Burnside. A detachment of cavalry is watching the roads from the vicinity of Massaponax Church to Hamilton's Crossing. The commanding general wishes you to keep up frequent communication with these headquarters. Captain Bates will indicate to you the locality of headquarters.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 21, 1864.

This division will move this afternoon, following the Second Division, in the following order: First Brigade, Third Brigade, Second Brigade, Fourth Brigade. The infantry will give the road as much as possible to the artillery and trains moving on the right of the road.

By command of Brigadier-General Russell:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 21, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

The Thirteenth Pennsylvania and Fifth New York Cavalry, under Colonel Hammond, are now on your left. I know nothing of Captain Pike's company, no orders having been given it from these headquarters.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I will order the tools to meet us at our next camp. There were enough at Fredericksburg and Belle Plain, but all our trains move to-day to Guiney's Station. I have not seen Captain Morris lately, though I have made every effort.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 21, 1864.

General RAWLINS, *Chief of Staff:*

Have you any news that you can communicate this morning from Sheridan or other armies?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 21, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

No news except that Sheridan is on his way back. Last heard from at Baltimore Store.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 21, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Major-General Meade has directed that the telegraph line leading to your headquarters be taken up at 9 a. m. The party is now at your headquarters for the purpose. Please give the necessary instructions.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 21, 1864—8.25 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

If General Warren's movement is successful, your corps and Wright's will move to-night, the latter following Hancock, and you following Warren on the Telegraph road. The action of the enemy may change or modify this. You want to keep as close to the enemy as possible, and report any movement of his you may observe. At 10 a. m. my headquarters will be removed to Massaponax Church.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 21, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

The route to be taken by Warren has been changed from the Telegraph road. He will move by Massaponax Church to Guiney's Bridge. Your route has not been changed. It will be, when ordered, the Telegraph road by Stanard's Mill, unless otherwise directed. Wright will follow you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Massaponax Church, May 21, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You may move as soon as practicable upon the receipt of this order, taking the direct ridge road to where it intersects the Telegraph road, thence by the latter road to Thornburg Cross-Roads.

If the enemy occupy the crossing of the Po in such force as to prevent you using it, then you will hold the north side at Stanard's Mill until your whole column is passed, and move to Guiney's Bridge. General Wright will follow you and will cover the crossing of the Po for his own corps. At Guiney's Bridge you will receive further directions if you are forced to take that road. If successful in crossing at Stanard's, your march will end at Thornburg.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General CRITTENDEN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you detail a party of 500 men to report to Major Morton at these headquarters as soon as possible. They will bring with them their intrenching tools. A proper guard for this working party will be furnished by General Potter. You will please have them report at the earliest possible moment.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION PICKET-LINE,
May 21, 1864.

Lieut. C. J. MILLS,
A. A. A. G., First Division, Ninth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report that I have advanced the picket-line according to orders. The picket-line on the left of this division I did not move as it did form an acute angle with the line of the Fifth Corps. The right is advanced about 80 rods, and is within 25 rods of the enemy's pickets, which are strongly posted on a ridge, which runs through an open field directly in our front. The enemy's rifle-pits are very strong and cannot be taken, in my opinion, by the skirmish line. I have lost several men in making the advance.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

H. H. RICHARDSON,
Maj. 21st Mass. Vols., Div. Officer of Day, 1st Div., 9th A. C.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Spotsylvania Court-House, May 21, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

Since the writing of instructions to you last evening, the whole of our supply trains have been ordered forward from Fredericksburg to Guiney's Station. Immediately upon the rear of these trains passing your lines, you will follow them with your command, and take up such position at Guiney's Station as to best protect and cover them from the enemy at that point.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
White House, May 21, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Three transports and two gun-boats arrived at West Point last night. I have sent for them to come here this morning. As soon as they get here I will supply Merritt's division, and send it to Old Church, and let you come back to get your supplies. As soon as I hear from Custer you can go to Old Church. The gun-boats do not like to come up the Pamunkey on account of torpedoes, but I still hope to get them up. If they do not come, we will be obliged to go to West Point to get supplies. Forsyth informed me that he notified you that we moved to White House this morning.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
White House, Va., May 21, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw your command, also General Wilson's division, to this place in order to obtain forage and rations. The general has heard nothing from General Custer and desires to know if you have any tidings of him. If so, please send in word as soon as possible.

E. B. PARSONS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
May 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Commanding Third Division, Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Brigadier-General Gregg, commanding cavalry force near Cold Harbor, directs that you move your division from its present position to White House, starting at 3 a. m. to-morrow. Arrived at White House, you will report to major-general commanding Cavalry Corps. The Second Division will march at 4 a. m. to-morrow. Rations and forage will be supplied the divisions at the White House.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Camp at Belle Plain, May 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt at 10 a. m. to-day of your dispatch of 9.30 last evening, and every possible preparation

for contingent movements will be made accordingly. The roads are now essentially in very good condition between this and Fredericksburg, and I expect to withdraw the command from them to-morrow, except one large company for the care of the bridges and the repairs of the roads. The bridge received from Washington on the 19th for that place was sent over as early as it was possible to procure transportation from the quartermaster's department, the last half of the animals only being supplied at 4 a. m. to-day. I ordered the bridge to be laid (to replace the pontoons from the front) this forenoon, and I doubt not that it was so laid.

In the anticipation that possibly all animals may be otherwise needed, I have also directed the officer there in case that his bridges move by water, to raft them with the trucks on the rafts ready for towing, and to comply with calls of the military governor of Fredericksburg, or other superior officer there. The large amount of bridge material here will be got ready for moving as far as circumstances will permit. Certain circumstances cause me to deem it proper to inform the commanding general that when I received the orders from the Adjutant-General of the Army to repair here with my brigade, though I immediately applied to the Quartermaster's Department for transportation, it was not furnished for twenty-two hours after, when some four to five hours were used by them to load the wagons and animals, yet we arrived here and had a wharf nearly built within forty-two hours after the first receipt of the order; but had that transportation been furnished within even sixteen hours, even after it was applied for, we should have been at work here in twenty-four hours after.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 21, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 8.20 p. m.)

WAR DEPARTMENT:

Three hundred infantry and about 200 cavalry went forward to-day, guarding trains. About 1,200 infantry (Brigadier-General Lockwood's command), just debarked, will be sent on. Four hundred and eighty-nine enlisted men and 8 officers rebel prisoners, received. Officers go to Washington, men to Point Lookout, to-morrow.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

Telegram of May 20 received about 2 a. m. this date. Troops coming to you guarding trains en route.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 21, 1864—8 p. m.

Colonel HOFFMAN,
Commissary-General of Prisoners, Washington, D. C.:

Colonel Cesnola, commanding dismounted cavalry guarding prisoners, reports having received 489 enlisted men, 8 officers, rebels. The officers go to Washington to-morrow under guard.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE.

FREDERICKSBURG, *May* 21, 1864.
(Received 4.10 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

I have the honor to inform you that 63 citizens of this place, 14 of whom are accused of having been engaged in sending our wounded soldiers to Richmond, were sent under guard to Washington at 6 o'clock this morning. A list of their names is with the officer commanding the guard. Nothing has yet been seen of Mayor Slaughter.

ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SAINT MARY'S DISTRICT,
Point Lookout, Md., May 21, 1864.

Commodore PARKER, *Saint Mary's, Md.:*

I have sent a sergeant with 22 men to Piney Point, and a lieutenant to consult with you about Blackiston's Island. The cavalry detachment cannot be spared from Leonardtown.

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, Comdg.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 21, 1864—6.30 p. m.
(Received 2.45 a. m. 22d.)

Hon. HENRY WILSON,
Chairman Military Committee:

Please send me what is the precise state of General Gillmore's name before the Senate, if not inconsistent with the public service. Have you received a letter from me, under date of May 7? Please answer by telegraph.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS and
Brig. Gen. J. G. BARNARD,
Present:

GENERALS: Lieutenant-General Grant directs that you immediately proceed to army on James River, examine the position which it occupies and means of defense. You will report on the supplies and whether gun-boats can be spared for the Rappahannock and York Rivers. General Grant wishes particularly to know what is

being done there, and what, in your judgment, it is advisable to do. This of course involves an estimate of the enemy's force and defenses, the condition of our army, whether active operations on our part are advisable, or whether it should limit itself to its defensive position, and, if so, what troops can be spared from that department to re-enforce the Army of the Potomac. You will report by telegraph the result of your observations, as directed in the telegram of General Grant. If troops can be spared from the James River the number will be telegraphed to the War Department for the proper orders, and the Quartermaster-General will prepare the transportation to Belle Plain or Port Royal, as may be directed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

GILLMORE'S, *May* 21, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I will report the number of engineer tools as soon as I get reports from the officer in charge of them. General Walker is not dead, but doing well, and can be moved very well.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., May 21, 1864.
(Received 1.40 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: What shall be done with Confederate General Walker? He is in a good condition for removal to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

GILLMORE'S,
May 21, 1864. (Received 2.05 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

As the woods are now being cut in the ravine on my right, I would recommend not to build the parapet for the 30-pounders until we ascertain the best position for it. The slashing may open out our view considerably. I asked this morning for ten or twelve 8-inch siege mortars for my lines.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 21, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

I believe my arrangements to prevent surprise are sufficient. I am going to the front at 3.30 o'clock myself.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 21, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you place a picket reserve of about 60 men in front of the west face of the new redoubt, in front of Ames' left. The officer commanding this picket reserve will throw some of his men into the woods in advance and communicate with Captain Pride, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, commanding the garrison of the redoubt; also, that you will direct your engineers to complete a strong abatis around that redoubt at once, continuing the work all night until completed.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Trenches, May 21, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I have inspected the advance battery in front of General Ames' position, and find that it will be essentially completed, abatis and all, in about an hour. They have but 50 rounds of ammunition to each gun. I find General Ames relieved from work in the trenches, and have made requisition on General Turner for 600 men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD W. SERRELL,
Colonel of Engineers, New York Volunteers.

On the right, 480 at work.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—9.06 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER:

General Ames reports troops massing in the wood in front of the right of his picket-line. I have ordered him to strengthen his pickets there.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—9.12 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

GENERAL: If the enemy make an assault on our works it will be in Ames' front, and I would respectfully suggest that a reserve force from the extreme left of the line be moved to Ames' support every morning at 3.30, to return to their own position after sunrise.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S,
May 21, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

A general order from department headquarters of yesterday assigns General Martindale to the command of the Second Division, Tenth Army Corps. I presume it is a clerical mistake.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 21, 1864—10.05 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

Your dispatch in relation to a force from the Eighteenth Corps is received. By general order for disposition of forces in case of attack, it is provided that two brigades of Brooks' division shall be held in reserve on his right, which is next to Ames' left, so that the contingency you suggest has thus been provided for.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 21, 1864—10.10 p. m

General GILLMORE:

Has general order in relation to disposition of troops along the lines been received and complied with? Let General Terry slash at the ravine in his front all night, so that it may be ready for the gunboat firing in the morning. Let him report progress to these headquarters.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., May 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: My troops are disposed as nearly in accordance with the order as the nature of the ground will permit. General Terry has been directed to continue the slashing, although very little can be effected at that kind of work at night time in a dark ravine. Tomorrow I will open other roads in rear of intrenchments, so as to post my regiments exactly in compliance with the order.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 21, 1864—11.20 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The attack was on Ames' right, but his pickets have not been driven in.

Q. A. GILLMORE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 16. } *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May* 21, 1864.

1. The following changes are hereby ordered in the organization of the divisions named. Battery M, First U. S. Artillery, transferred from the First to the Third Division. Light Company E, Third U. S. Artillery, transferred from the Third to the First Division.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864—10.25 a. m.

Generals TERRY, TURNER, and KAUTZ:

The enemy have made an attack on Hinks, on other side of Appomattox; it may be only a diversion. We may be attacked. Keep your troops well in hand and assume command of all artillery within the limits of your line. The First Regiment Connecticut Artillery are available for serving their guns and manning parapets as infantry.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., May 21, 1864—10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: Have your command under arms at 3.30 a. m. to-morrow, the 22d instant, and march them to the field in rear of General Ames' position.

By command of Major-General Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 21, 1864.

Col. W. B. BARTON,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: You will have your command under arms at 3.30 a. m. to-morrow and march to the front, taking position in the field in rear of General Ames' division.

By order of Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Ware Bottom Church, Va., May 21, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following extract from a communication just received from the division officer of the picket-line of my command: "I find the enemy are concentrating on the right of my line and left of General Terry's, under cover of the timber."

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 21, 1864.

General TERRY:

The major-general commanding directs unless very strong already you strengthen the left of your picket-line.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., May 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Third Division, Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The following orders have been received from department headquarters, which you will take measures to have carried into effect immediately.*

By command of Major-General Gillmore:
ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *May* 21, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

The general orders issued last night, ordering General Martindale to duty, should have read "Eighteenth" instead of "Tenth" Army Corps.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *May* 21, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

Have you made the dispositions directed in general order as to troops on the lines, especially as regards the two reserve brigades on Brooks' right, Ames' left, as General Ames reports the massing of troops on his front?

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

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*See Butler to Gillmore, 4.30 p. m., p. 70.

SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 21, 1864.

General BUTLER:

Will send you word the moment the division commanders report their troops in position.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 21. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., May* 21, 1864.

I. The general commanding orders that commanders will in no wise change their camps to low or marshy ground.

II. During the existence of the order from department headquarters requiring troops of this command to be under arms at 3.30 a. m., a ration of whisky and quinine, or coffee if preferred, will be issued to them.

By command of Major-General Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 21, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Colonel DUNCAN:

You will please have Lieutenant Hanson's section of the Third New York Artillery at the wharf ready to embark at 10.30 this a. m.

HINKS,
General.

MAY 21, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant WILBER:

Disembark the artillery from the Mattano and embark Lieutenant Hanson's section immediately.

LIVERMORE,
Captain.

MAY 21, 1864—5 p. m.

Colonel FULLER:

Fort Powhatan is attacked. Can you let me have a steamer to carry down 600 men immediately? Answer immediately.

HINKS,
General.

MAY 21, 1864.
(Received 5.15 p. m.)

General HINKS:

The boat will be sent at once.

FULLER,
Colonel.

MAY 21, 1864—5.45 p. m.
(Received 6.15 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

General Wild reports that Fort Powhatan has been attacked. I shall proceed thither at once with a part of the Fifth Regiment. This may be a ruse to weaken our force at City Point. Will you send a gun-boat to cover our right flank at City Point on the Appomattox River. Colonel Russell, Fifth Massachusetts Cavalry, will be in command here during my absence.

E. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 21, 1864.
(Received 8.45 p. m.)

COMMANDING OFFICER, *City Point, Va.:*

Be careful against surprise. If the enemy attacks he will probably attack at daylight, but at no hour let the command be unprepared. Be specially careful these foggy mornings. Let the troops understand that if they hold out we can have re-enforcements to them within a couple of hours; that will prevent panic. Visit your pickets personally and see that they are doing their duty.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT POWHATAN, *May* 21, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

All quiet here. No enemy in sight. A few shots from our guns entirely scattered them. Affairs were much exaggerated by a staff officer of General Wild. Shall return to City Point as soon as I have inspected our lines. Colonel Kiddoo is the right man in the right place, and sufficient for any affair that is likely to occur here.

HINKS,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 21, 1864.

Captain DODGE, *Assistant Quartermaster:*

CAPTAIN: Please send the Winants to Fort Powhatan immediately. Let the captain report to commanding officer there and bring back statement of condition of things there.

By order of Major-General Butler:

R. O'BRIEN.

Please acknowledge receipt.

BERMUDA, *May* 21, 1864.

R. O'BRIEN:

Dispatch to Captain Dodge received. The Greyhound has gone to Fort Powhatan in place of the Winants, which had previously gone. Mail arrived at 6.30.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.

MAY 21, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Captain DODGE:

I wish to move my command across the river to Bermuda to-day. Can you furnish transportation? If so, send it over at once.

KAUTZ,
General.

MAY 21, 1864.
(Received 9 a. m.)

General KAUTZ:

Will send transportation for your command immediately. Unfortunately, I am using the ferry-boats to transport pontoon-boats and cannot transport your cavalry as rapidly as I could wish.

C. E. FULLER,
Colonel.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Aiken's Landing, May 21, 1864—4.30 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 11.30 a. m. 24th.
Received 12.15 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

No change in the situation. No news from Richmond. The statement by the special correspondent of the Tribune, professedly written from General Butler's headquarters, that General Butler sent his aide, Major Ludlow, to ask me to co-operate in the attack on Fort Darling, is entirely untrue. General Butler never gave me any notice of his intended movement against Fort Darling, and never asked me for any co-operation against Fort Darling. To-day General Butler gave me to understand that his attack on Fort Darling was a feint.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

NORFOLK, *May* 21, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

I have ordered Kautz's dismounted men and District of Columbia Cavalry to embark as fast as transportation is furnished. They will go immediately; the guns from Ringgold have been sent.

GEO. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 21, 1864.

Col. P. J. CLAASSEN,
Commanding Outposts

(Through General Harland):

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to say that he wishes all of the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteers concentrated immediately at the railroad landing at your camp,

ready for transportation by rail. All their camp and garrison equipage will be taken. You will send a staff officer to expedite the movement. As soon as they are ready, you will telegraph to Captain Holden, acting chief quartermaster, who has been directed to send you transportation. If the regiment can get off to-night so much the better. Let them be moved as promptly as possible. You will inform the commanding officer that he is to go to Morehead with his command and report to Colonel Jourdan. The commanding general wishes me to say in addition, that you and Colonel Savage must take care of the front for the present; other troops will be sent you to replace the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York as soon as possible. You will communicate this to Colonel Savage.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GUINEY'S STATION,
May 22, 1864—8.30 a. m. (Received 5.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

We now occupy Milford Station and south of the Mattapony on that line. I will now transfer our depot to Port Royal at once. Please direct the transfer of everything there.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

BETHEL CHURCH, VA.,
May 22, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 8 a. m. 23d.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

The enemy have evidently fallen behind North Anna. Prisoners have been captured to-day from Pickett's division, and there is evidence of other troops having been sent from Richmond also. Besides these, Breckinridge is said to have arrived. The force under General Butler is not detaining 10,000 men in Richmond, and is not even keeping the roads south of the city cut. Under these circumstances I think it advisable to have all of it here except enough to keep a foothold at City Point. If they could all be brought at once to Tappahannock or West Point by water, that would be the best way to bring them. They might march across, but if the enemy should fall back of the South Anna this might become hazardous. Send Smith in command, and send neither artillery nor cavalry, unless it is deemed expedient to march over to West Point, thence up north side to join this command. I shall be on the Anna to-morrow or meet the enemy this side. Notify me which way they will be sent.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, May 22, 1864.

Lieutenant-General Grant has given notice that his base of supplies will be immediately changed from Fredericksburg to Port

Royal. Orders will be given accordingly to remove everything from Fredericksburg, Belle Plain, and Aquia Creek to Port Royal. Repairs of railroad will cease, and all property not required at Port Royal will be returned to Alexandria. Proper precautions will be taken to have nothing destroyed and nothing left to be captured by rebel guerrilla forces. The proper orders will also be given to all transports of supplies leaving here, and also to all re-enforcements.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(To Engineer, Quartermaster's, Commissary, Medical, and Railroad Departments, and also to General Augur.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864—7 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Direct General Ingalls to move the trains to Bowling Green. Notify corps commanders of this fact and that five days' rations must be drawn to-night from the supply train. The positions ordered for the corps to-day are: Second at Milford, Fifth at Harris' Store, Sixth in rear of Fifth, Burnside at New Bethel Church, trains at Bowling Green, headquarters at Bethel Church.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 22, 1864—8 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Notify the chiefs of staff departments that orders have been given to return all empty wagons now at Fredericksburg and Belle Plain loaded, after which, so soon as the wounded are removed from Fredericksburg, that place and Belle Plain will be abandoned, and the depot will be established at Port Royal, on the Rappahannock.

MEADE.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near New Bethel Church, May 22, 1864.

The CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, or
ACTING CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
At Corps Headquarters:

The major-general commanding has directed that all of the general supply trains of this army be moved to-morrow from Bowling Green to the vicinity of Milford Station and parked. All empty wagons present with the troops to-morrow will be sent to Milford Station to rejoin their respective trains. They will be sent at such times and by such roads as not to interfere with the marching of the troops.

By command of Brigadier-General Ingalls, chief quartermaster, Army of the Potomac:

W. T. HOWELL,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Guiney's Station, May 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

I have the honor to inclose copies of the orders just issued by Generals Grant and Meade in regard to a change of depots, also copies of my letters to the quartermasters at Belle Plain and Fredericksburg for your information. I have now earnestly to recommend that means of transportation be sent to Fredericksburg as rapidly as possible for the removal of those wounded. The trains of wagons and ambulances will probably be required on the march to Port Royal and at that place. They can be sent back to Washington from that point when you wish. I would recommend that work on the Aquia railroad be suspended forthwith, as the road may be damaged after the abandonment of Fredericksburg.

Very respectfully,

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
May 22, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: We have 2 prisoners of war, a second lieutenant and the forage-master of Rosser's brigade, taken yesterday evening at 9.08 this side of the Milford Station. The forage-master (apparently a very frank fellow) declines to be exchanged, and says: Rosser's brigade left camp yesterday a. m. between 7 and 8 o'clock, 2½ miles above Spotsylvania Court-House, on road to Shady Grove, with orders to go to Milford. As they passed in the rear of the infantry the wagon train of Ewell's corps was getting ready to move. On the way, partly on main road to Guiney's and partly on by-roads, and from Guiney's to Bethel Church, thence across Telegraph road toward Bowling Green 1 mile to a church, thence toward Milford, and within 2 miles of it, saw no rebel infantry moving. He stopped at what he thinks was Wright's Tavern, 2 miles from Milford. His brigade was there, and he was sent back for his train, our troops being known to be at Milford, and his colonel saying he thought it was a raiding party and he would have them whaled out by the time the wagons came up. On his way back was captured. Was asked by an old citizen near the tavern how many Yankees he thought there were at Milford. Said he didn't know; perhaps 3,000. Old citizen then said: If that is all, they will likely be whipped by the re-enforcements coming to General Lee.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE.

P. S.—He says Rosser's brigade is about 800 strong, having lost 500 to 600 men in the Wilderness. Knows nothing about Wickham's strength, but says Young is also here with two regiments of his brigade, very weak.

G. H. SHARPE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

We have news from our scouts at 12 m. to-day between Milford and the next station beyond, name forgotten. They were going in the direction of Hanover Junction. The force opposing Hancock yesterday was Kemper's brigade, of Pickett's division, and the scouts heard from citizens that the rest of Pickett's division arrived last evening at Chesterfield Station. Two thousand men passed through Milford to General Lee day before yesterday, and we have a prisoner from Forty-third North Carolina, which has been with Hoke in North Carolina and is now back with three other regiments (Twenty-first North Carolina, Fifty-seventh North Carolina, and the Twenty-first Georgia), having left Richmond day before yesterday early, marched from Milford toward Lee's army and back again yesterday. This man says three trains left Richmond with the troops, and he heard Ransom's brigade was on the way, too. We have also men in from the left who report that the country is all clear from Piney Branch Church to Todd's Tavern, and, as they heard, to the Court-House, General Lee having left nothing behind. Only one small squad of cavalry was seen between Todd's Tavern and the Court-House, and that was going south. There were rumors that Mosby was ordered to follow up our rear.

The inclosed dispatches were taken by Cline at Milford, and give information of Sheridan and the enemy's movements on our advance.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864.

1. The positions which the several corps are ordered to occupy to-day are as follows: Second Corps at Milford, Fifth Corps at Harris' Store, Sixth Corps in rear of Fifth Corps, Ninth Corps at New Bethel Church, general headquarters at New Bethel Church.

2. The chief quartermaster will at once cause the wagons of the general supply trains to be moved to Bowling Green, and corps commanders will cause five days' rations to be drawn to-night from their supply trains.

3. The cavalry now at Massaponax Church, under the command of Major Kerwin, will, after the Sixth Corps and its trains have passed that point, move up and take position at Motley's Cross-Roads and carefully watch all the roads leading to that point.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864.

The detachments of cavalry with this army are assigned to duty for the present as follows: The detachment commanded by Brigadier-General Torbert to report to Major-General Hancock, com-

manding Second Corps, by 5 a. m. to-morrow. The detachment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Pope to continue with Fifth Army Corps. The detachment commanded by Major Forsyth to report by 5 a. m. to-morrow to Major-General Wright, commanding Sixth Corps. The detachment commanded by Major Kerwin to receive special instructions from these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Meade :

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Instructions have been given to return all empty wagons now at Fredericksburg and Belle Plain loaded ; after which, so soon as the wounded are removed from Fredericksburg, that place and Belle Plain will be abandoned, and the depot will be established at Port Royal, on the Rappahannock.

By command of Major-General Meade :

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864—11.30 a. m.

The design of the circular of this morning directing that five days' rations be drawn to-night was to provide the troops with six days' subsistence to be carried on the person (from to-morrow morning), and such stores as are only necessary for this purpose will be drawn. Hereafter until further orders no subsistence stores will be drawn from the supply trains unless specially directed from these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Meade :

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864—10 p. m.

The following order has been received and is published for the guidance of all concerned :

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
New Bethel, Va., May 22, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac :

GENERAL : Direct corps commanders to hold their troops in readiness to march at 5 a. m. to-morrow. At that hour each command will send out cavalry and infantry on all roads to their front leading south, and ascertain, if possible, where the enemy is. If beyond the North Anna, the Fifth and Sixth Corps will march to the forks of the road where one branch leads to Beaver Dam Station, the other to Jericho Bridge ; then south by roads, reaching the Anna as near to and east of Hawkins' Creek as they can be found. The Second Corps will move to Chesterfield Ford. The Ninth Corps will be directed to move at the same time to Jericho Bridge,

The map only shows two roads for the four corps to march upon, but no doubt by the use of plantation roads and pressing in guides, others can be found to give one for each corps. The troops will follow their respective reconnoitering parties. The train will be moved at the same time to Milford Station. Headquarters will follow the Ninth Corps.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 22, 1864—4.15 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 8 p. m. yesterday just received by Captain Meade. As soon as I ascertained that the road was interfered with I sent a courier with dispatches to you. Previously, during the day, a squadron had been sent up to Guiney's Bridge, and I supposed that through their efforts the road would be kept clear. Everything quiet here at this hour. I wrote you in detail last night at 6.10 p. m., and sent it with a command of cavalry, which, I suppose, has reached you, though I have not any receipt from it. My command is all on this side of the river about Coates' house. I will direct General Torbert to keep the road to the rear clear.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864—7.15 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding has directed General Torbert to leave 500 cavalry with you, and with the remainder of his force to move to New Bethel Church, on the road running west from Bowling Green, a mile or two west of the Mattapony.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have communicated with General Warren, and have had infantry and cavalry near New Bethel Church, the cavalry meeting some of General Burnside's people. No force of the enemy has been discovered in the vicinity of my position. Their nearest posi-

tion south is at the creek beyond Athens, where they have, it is reported to me, some dismounted cavalry. Most of my cavalry is on the other side of the river, picketing down the railroad, and on the roads leading into Bowling Green and Milford. I picket the roads leading into Athens from Pole Cat Station and below. Captain Paine has furnished you with complete information, I presume, as to my position. My trains are on this side of the river, except the general train at Bowling Green. My position here this morning had been made very formidable, and we would have been glad to have received an attack from the whole of Lee's force.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 22, 1864—10.05 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Our cavalry have gone to New Bethel Church, as I learn from Major Kerwin, commanding detachment Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, passing along our front. He thinks there is no enemy on my front and right within 3 or 4 miles. He captured three wagon loads of army clothing, bacon, &c., and destroyed them. At the railroad bridge, 3 miles below, I sent some cavalry last night, but they found infantry across the bridge protecting it. The people down there state that Breckinridge's troops are at Chesterfield, 7 miles from here. I have a very good position. There is an excellent position for a corps on my left, which [is] the most dangerous point I have. General Torbert is pushing the reconnaissances, and clearing the roads, &c. There was a detachment at Guiney's Bridge which, it seems, had better be sent down here, and when Downer's Bridge is covered, there is some cavalry there which might be sent down. If any troops come down on your side of the Mattapony, there is a good road from Bowling Green, and a bridge called Burke's Bridge. I send you a sketch* of our position.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: A line of battle of the enemy is seen advancing from our outposts toward Campbell's Tavern, apparently striking our line about the left center. Their advance is described on the map.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 22, 1864—12.45 p. m. (Received 6.20 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have seen no more of the enemy reported some time since. I send a dispatch received from General Torbert in reference to reported movements of Hood's [Hoke's] division. Some of the prisoners captured yesterday (from Kemper's brigade), who were in Butler's last fight on Monday, say that they forced him in between the Appomattox and James Rivers, and built a line of fortifications completely across, after which they sent a considerable part of their troops to re-enforce General Lee.

The line of battle reported this morning may have been some troops marching to Spotsylvania Court-House. I am sending reconnaissances on each principal road of infantry with skirmishers to find what is going on. If any troops come down this way, in case of a fight they should be directed on Campbell's Tavern by a road leading from Fredericksburg, and also in the direction of Spotsylvania. The position at Campbell's Tavern is a very commanding one, and if any troops come there I should connect with them, but my line is not long enough. This position at the tavern is a better position for my right than the one I have, but would throw my right out too much exposed to roads coming in from Spotsylvania Court-House. A very intelligent Irishwoman says that yesterday at Chesterfield was Breckinridge's division, Corse's brigade, and Rosser's cavalry. I sent some infantry to near New Bethel Church this morning. There is nothing seen on our right.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

I don't believe at present that there is any enemy immediately in my front. except enemy's vedettes, which we fire at occasionally.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864. (Received 12.20 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: A negro has just come in, who left Chesterfield Station last night about dark. He says there were 10,000 or 12,000 troops there then of General Hood's [Hoke's] division, just come from Richmond, and that some of them were talking of going to Hanover Junction. He says there were not many men at Pole Cat Station last night. The above is about the amount of his information.

Very respectfully,

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

P. S.—Is the information from the cavalry picketing on your right satisfactory?

Very respectfully,

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

MAY 22, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Major-General Burnside's corps is at this place—New Bethel Church. He is directed to send out his cavalry and open communication with you, and should you require support you may call upon him. General Warren will be at Harris' Store with similar orders; is probably there by this time. Headquarters are near New Bethel Church. The order to General Torbert to move to this place, leaving 500 men with you, is rescinded. He is directed to remain where he is. Wright is 4 miles in rear of Warren at Madison's Ordinary and Nancy Wright's.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864—4 p. m. (Received 5.20 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: I have received your dispatch of 10.45 a. m. Burnside is here at New Bethel Church, within 5 miles of you, and a road leading down there. I send this dispatch to advise you of this fact, so that you can call on Burnside if you are pressed.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I send my escort through to communicate with you. Lieutenant Wheeler will tell you everything. I believe the enemy is all gone to Hanover Junction. We picked up about 50 stragglers from Ewell and Longstreet, and had to brush away a small flank force of cavalry.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding Fifth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 22, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: I strongly suspect that the line of battle, reported by Captain Butterfield, was General Birney's reconnoitering party. Colonel Smyth is pushing his skirmishers out on the Junction road, and I will hear shortly.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

Colonel Smyth has just sent me word there is no enemy in that position but a few cavalry. His skirmishers are about 2 miles from the tavern. Do you wish him to advance any farther, remain where he is, or return?

J. G.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 22, 1864—3.15 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

Colonel Smyth has returned. His troops are now coming back. He has had no cavalry whatever with him, but General Birney's cavalry is on the Athens road, and my pickets are well out on the road, passing by Campbell's Tavern.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—7 a. m. (Received 7.15 a. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs me to say that he desires that you will ascertain what is immediately in your front. If necessary, you can send out a regiment or more with strong skirmish line on the roads leading out, or at different points in front where facilities exist for massing troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY, *Comdg. Third Division:*

SIR: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Torbert has been directed to send about 100 cavalry to make a reconnaissance along the road leading out of your front, in connection with any infantry you may desire to send.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 22, 1864—12 m.

[Col. F. A. WALKER?]

COLONEL: My scouts and skirmishers on the left have advanced a mile without finding any enemy.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 22, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Comdg. Third Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the corps directs me to say for your information that there will be a movement of troops this afternoon (not ours) in the direction of New Bethel Church and Harris' Store.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 22, 1864—12.50 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Comdg. Third Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the corps directs me to say that you will please keep your cavalry well out on the roads in your front and left, and instruct them to be very careful not to fire upon our own troops.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding has directed me to inform you that he has received information of the arrival of Major-General Warren with his command at Harris' Store.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs me to say that he will send a company or squadron of cavalry to strengthen your force picketing the road from Athens to the front and around toward Warren's left, to cover the movement of trains passing by way of Campbell's Tavern and Wright's Store to Warren's headquarters. Major Houghton, of my staff, will conduct the cavalry to you, in an hour or less.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 22, 1864—3 a. m.
(Received 4 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

I had just completed my reconnaissance for a defensive line when your counter dispatch came. The position here is so strong that no enemy knowing it would attack. I have a force well out toward the Mud Tavern from which I have yet no report, and as a defensive measure have ordered a brigade to advance at daylight in that direction. This will go on and give us definite information. I had already ordered Colonel Kitching to withdraw, but have sent word for him to halt wherever the messenger finds him and ordered a fresh

brigade out to support the cavalry. The cavalry I sent to Downer's Bridge report the enemy too strong for them, and came back. There cannot be much there, I think, but I would suggest that a squadron or so be sent from Guiney's Station. I have directed a brigade to go again in daylight. My trains are safe enough this side of the river anyhow.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps.

GENERAL: I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of this morning. It is not practicable to send a squadron of cavalry from here to Downer's Bridge, as you suggest, as we have no mounted men available for the purpose. General Burnside has been directed to send a brigade to Downer's Bridge.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 22, 1864—6 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

I have just returned from the road leading to Nancy Wright's, on the Telegraph road, and was at a point half a mile from the Telegraph road. A rebel wagon train was passing south on the Telegraph road and had been passing since daylight. Our cavalry under Lieutenant-Colonel Pope are out there, and can capture it, I think, if they try. General Warren being asleep I send this in my own name.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

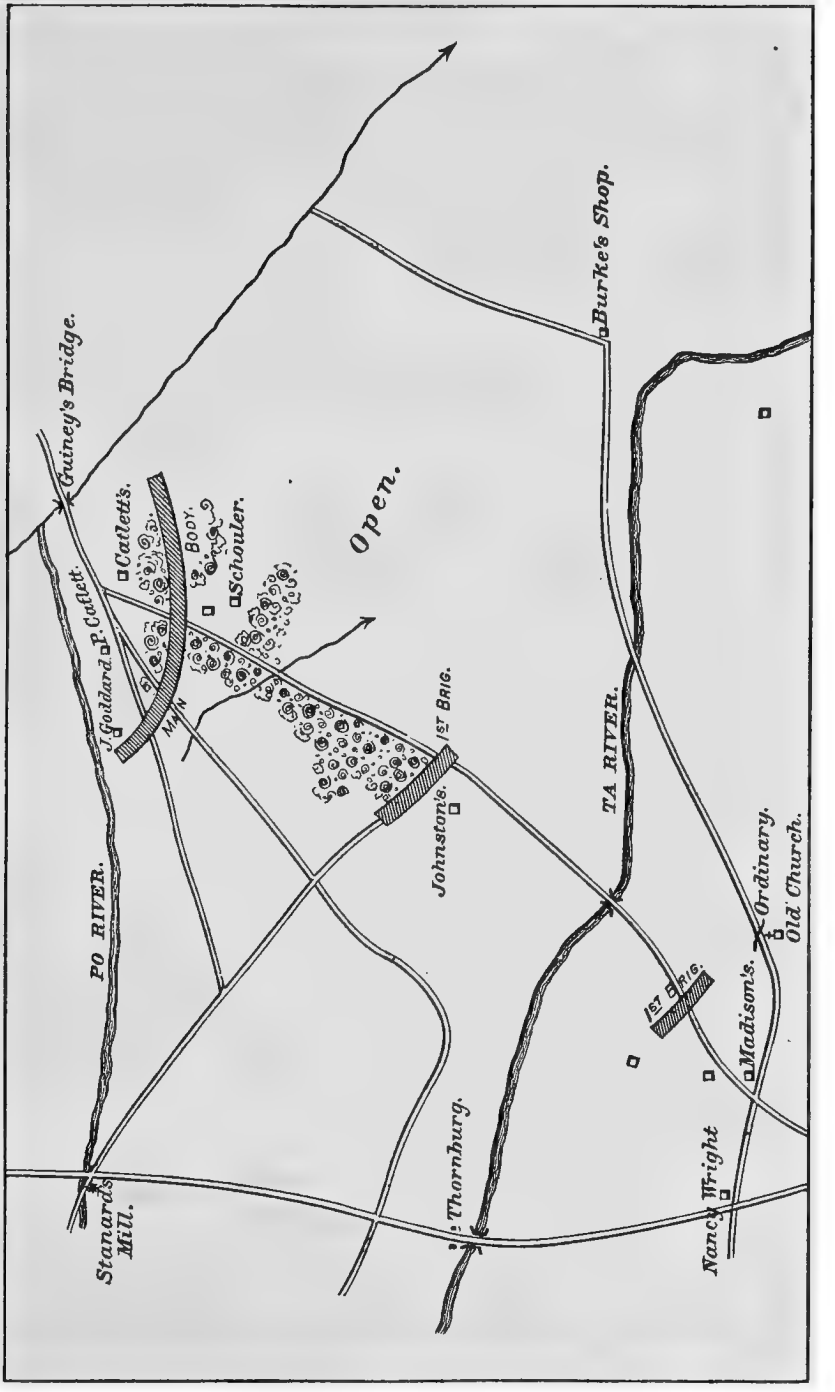
HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that, as soon as General Wright reports to you that he is up, you move with your corps via Madison's Ordinary and Nancy Wright's to Harris' Store (intersection of road from Milford to Chilesburg and cross-roads adjacent). You will be followed by Wright, and will take command of both corps. You will so dispose some of your force as to keep open communication with headquarters at New Bethel Church on the road from Bowling Green to Nancy Wright's. As soon as you reach Harris' Store you will open communication with Hancock at Milford.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—General Burnside is ordered to move from here at 10 o'clock.


Guiney's Bridge.
Catletts.
Booy.
Schouler.
Open.
Burke's Shop.
J. Goddard
P. Catlett.
MAIN
PO RIVER.
Johnston's.
1st BRIG.
TA RIVER.
Ordinary.
Old Church.
1ST BRIG.
Madison's.
Stanards Mill.
Thornburg.
Nancy Wright

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May [22?], 1864—7.15 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: I have asked at one house since Captain Pease came here, and they say the way to Burke's Shop is by Madison's Ordinary, then turn to the left about 2 or 3 miles off. But if it is anything like correctly located on the map, we can go in that direction across the open country in the valley of the Ta River. In my vicinity the branches of the Ta head close to the Po, making a very narrow dividing ridge. I have just sent Major Roebling to reconnoiter in the direction to Burke's Shop.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Colonel Bates' brigade has pushed up the south bank of the Po to the Telegraph road. Nothing visible there but cavalry. Mr. Pound says Ewell's and Longstreet's corps marched down the Telegraph road all last night, and are gone south. A wagon train has been seen and heard at two points, moving south. It was visible this morning from Madison's Ordinary. Colonel Bates got there at 8 a. m.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 22, 1864—9.30 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs me to notify you that General Wright is up to this point, and that you can move forward. Wright's men have been up all night, and want rest. He will halt awhile, and then follow you. The major-general commanding suggests that he halt his corps at Madison's Ordinary, where he will be in supporting distance of you, will look toward Spotsylvania Court-House, and keep open communication with Bowling Green.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 22, 1864—9.45 a. m.

General MEADE:

Colonel Bates has sent me word that there is nothing but some cavalry watching the vicinity of the Telegraph road. He is on it about a mile south of Stanard's Mill. Mr. Richard Pound, living there, says the troops began to move south at 11 a. m. yesterday, and were passing all night. He says Longstreet and Ewell's corps went that way, and that he was expecting Hill along the same road. I shall now move on, but am afraid General Wright's men will be too tired to keep up. I may have opposition at the crossing of the Mat River.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 22, 1864—10.20 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Your note by Captain Burke just received. I think your suggestions about General Wright's command are the best arrangement that could be made. I will have my train precede General Wright. My command is already moving. I will have Colonel Bates' command withdrawn from his position on the plank road when my column is all past.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

P. S.—Major Roebling has just returned from a reconnaissance toward Burke's Shop, and says there is no passable road direct from here there. The map is very erroneous. Downer's Bridge is twice as far from Guiney's as represented, and the Ta joins the Po above this bridge. Burke's Shop is over a mile south of the Ta. The best road to Burke's Shop is by Madison's Ordinary.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 22, 1864—1 p. m.

General MEADE:

We have reached Littleton Flippo's, on the Telegraph road, and struck a rear guard that fired one or two guns and some musketry. We have picked up stragglers since crossing the Ta from both Ewell and Longstreet. They began passing here yesterday at 3 p. m., and the rear of the main party an hour after sunrise. I think we shall have trouble in crossing the Mat. A colored man who came up the road says Longstreet is resting about 2 miles ahead of where we are.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 22, 1864—2 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

General Burnside's head of column has just reached here followed by Wright. The cannonading we heard was an attack upon Wright's rear upon leaving the old position. The resistance to General Burnside at Stanard's was slight. The commanding general directs that you support the cavalry in holding the bridge over the Ta, repair the road, and be ready to move either by way of Madison's Ordinary, or by the Mud Tavern and Thornburg.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DETACHMENT,
May 22, 1864—4.30 p. m.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, FIFTH ARMY CORPS:

SIR: I have the honor to report that after moving down by the right on to the Telegraph road, I have rejoined the column and am at present halted for feed and to wait report from detachment sent under Captain Southwick this a. m., to Downer's Bridge. He started at 4 a. m. with one squadron. About 6 I received from

him a request for another squadron to cover his rear, as he had seen a small squad on his left rear. I then sent Lieutenant Barry with orders to move soon to his support. At 10 I sent orders to Captain Southwick to return and not picket the bridge. He has not yet reported. I find supply of corn for horses and meat for men.

Very respectfully,

E. M. POPE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c., Commanding.

I omitted to report that while moving to the Telegraph road I encountered a small squad of rebels; killed 1 and captured 2; the balance went across and south of the Telegraph road. Those captured were of the Forty-second North Carolina, Ewell's command.

E. M. POPE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Harris' Store, May 22, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The only annoyance we had on the march was from some cavalry near L. Flippo's, which, together with the rumors, cost us one hour. We were, however, unable to get in the rear of Ewell and Longstreet. We were so close at Dr. Flippo's that about fifty wagons feeding there left their feed boxes. The troops ceased passing about 11 a. m. We have picked up about 50 stragglers. We moved down the Telegraph road; it is much better than the one direct to Harris' Store. Colonel Pope's cavalry is somewhere in the rear coming up. I shall send my escort through to General Hancock.

The cavalry we ran off went toward Chilesburg. Part of the enemy's train turned off the Telegraph road to that place. The road from here to Milford Station is much cut up by the enemy's trains moving to and fro. I have told General Wright he need not come farther than the Ta River to-night. If I am to continue moving south the Telegraph road is the best one. I have just caught a colored man, direct from Hanover Junction, with a carriage, in which he took off a wounded man. He says by this time they are all over the Pamunkey except the stragglers. He says they had "miles of troops and oceans of wagons and artillery." Hill (A. P.) must have taken the route through Chilesburg or one farther west.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: I am near the place known on the map as Cobbett's Tavern, and propose establishing a division there to-morrow unless orders are received to-night making it unnecessary. No enemy appears within a number of miles of my position in any direction, except a few cavalry vedettes; easily driven off. My position is, say, 1½ miles this side of Mattapony.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

We expect to move very soon to Harris' Store. Information is now quite positive that the enemy fell back last night along the Telegraph road. We shall probably meet with no opposition, unless it is at the crossing of the Mat River. I will give you the advance and send you a guide. Have everything packed up and ready. Take along what wagons you have with you, and the artillery now with you.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

In compliance with the above instructions the division will be ready to move at once, in the following order: Third Brigade, Second Brigade, First Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

C. B. MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 22, 1864—2 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

If any infantry come out against you it will be from your left from the southeast. The troops should form facing southwest and move in that direction. When the cavalry is over on the plain, look out for your left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 22, 1864—3.30 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

Since I saw you I have again had countermanding orders to prepare to advance, so that I have additional reasons for wanting that brigade pushed out as soon as possible along the ridge. Let it keep going till it strikes the enemy.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 5TH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MCCOY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division:

COLONEL: I have advanced full 2 miles, more than a mile from barricade erected by enemy last night. Have found nothing but cavalry, probably scouts. Am still advancing; am in a thick woods, and no prospect of open country.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JAMES L. BATES,
Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade,

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA RESERVES,
THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Catlett's House, May 22, 1864—7.50 a. m.

Colonel BATES,
Second Brigade, Second Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding division directs that you halt your brigade where you now are, and send a small scouting party out farther in advance to ascertain whether there is any of the enemy in your front.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT A. McCOY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA RESERVES,
THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

Capt. A. S. MARVIN, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the capture of 8 prisoners by my command to-day, one of whom was forwarded to headquarters Fifth Army Corps, and 7 are now in the hands of my provost-marshal.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

MAY 22, 1864.

General CUTLER:

I wish you to send one of your brigades at once upon the road the heavy artillery took this evening. Do not stop to make coffee. Send your best brigade and let an officer report here when it is ready. Major Roebling will go with it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—12.10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

About 6 p. m. last evening, after General Burnside had started and as I was about moving, an attack was made by the enemy on my lines with two brigades (some of the prisoners say four), but it was repulsed by the picket-line, except at one point where the skirmishers were driven in a few yards. The troops were of Hill's corps, all of which were said to be in our front. General Burnside sent back one division to hold his old line. General Burnside, it appears, could not secure a crossing of the Po, and is now on the Telegraph road crossing the Ny at Smith's Bridge, on the way to Guiney's Bridge. My column has hardly got out of the intrenchments, and is now

halted, the road being blocked ahead by General Burnside's column. I have not reported before as I had no one who knew the road to headquarters, and the road was not considered safe.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—4.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The rear of my column is about 2½ miles from the Telegraph road. The roads have been blocked in front during the greater part of the night. The whole column is now in motion.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—5.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The head of my column is near the Ta River, doubled up, waiting for the passage of Warren's rear guard. I passed it once, but the road became so narrow and the woods so dense that it was quite impracticable to move the troops farther by side of the trains. Nothing of interest to report.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

I send a dispatch from Major Forsyth.

W.

[Inclosure.]

CAMP CAVALRY DETACHMENT,
Mud Tavern, May 22, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Ewell's corps commenced passing down the Telegraph road about 12 m. yesterday. Longstreet's corps passed the same way during the night, covered by the Ninth Virginia Cavalry, who withdrew their pickets about 9 a. m. to-day. The soldiers openly said in the presence of the negroes that they were bound for Milford, Anderson's Station, and the South Anna River. My pickets will probably furnish me more information before night.

G. A. FORSYTH,
Major, Commanding Cavalry Detachment.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that my troops are going into position with the right near the Madison place (Flippo's), the left extending

in a southern direction, with one brigade at Nancy Wright's, on Telegraph road. Nothing of interest to report. General Warren's trains have just left Madison's.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Guiney's Station, Va., May 22, 1864—7 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Move forward your corps promptly at 9 a. m. to-day by Downer's Bridge to New Bethel Church, and seize and hold the crossing of the Ta River on the roads from there to Coleman's old academy, and on the road to Carrot's [Cobbett's?] Tavern. You will also get up and issue to your men to-night six days' rations from and including to-morrow. Generals Warren and Wright are under orders to move this morning to Harris' Store. General Hancock is at Milford Station. You will open communication with each of these places from New Bethel Church, holding your corps in readiness to move to the support of either. Please keep these headquarters advised from time to time of your progress.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
New Bethel, Va., May 22, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The great number of men straggling from their commands on the march renders it necessary that strong and efficient rear guards be detailed to prevent it. You will, therefore, detail a regiment of your command as rear guard to your corps, one that will execute strictly and to the letter your orders, with instructions to summarily punish all men falling behind or straggling from their ranks, and especially those who may be found going to farm-houses for the purpose of pillaging. This is not to be construed into an order prohibiting foraging, but foraging must be done under authority of division commanders.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
New Bethel Church, Va., May 22, 1864.

The inclosed orders, just received from headquarters Armies of the United States, are sent for the information and guidance of the different division commanders. The order of march will be as follows: General Willcox in the advance, followed by General Critten-

den; he, followed by General Potter. The latter will detail one of his most efficient regiments as rear guard, in accordance with one of the inclosed orders. General Willcox will send Captain Fletcher out at 4 a. m. to repair the approaches to one of the fords, some 2 miles in advance. One of Major Morton's men will report to him at that hour to go with the party. The route will be by Carrat's [Cobbett's] Tavern and Athens. Captain Fletcher can report here and obtain a sketch of the route before starting.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Guiney's Station, Va., May 22, 1864.

Major-General CRITTENDEN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: In accordance with instructions from general headquarters [Armies of the] United States, you will move your command promptly at 9 a. m. to-day from its present position to New Bethel Church, a point about 2 miles from the present location of General Potter's command. An orderly will be sent you to show you the way to General Potter's headquarters. Please instruct the commanding officers to inform their men that it will be but a short march, after which they will have a day's rest; and the general commanding particularly desires that there be no straggling.

Very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
New Bethel Church, May 22, 1864.

General CRITTENDEN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: You will at once send a strong guard to the bridge over the Mat River in your front. The bearer will conduct the guard to its place, which will consist of at least one small regiment, say one of the regiments of regulars in General Ledlie's brigade. A copy of an order from General Grant is inclosed for your information. I will give you definite orders during the night. It will be sufficient to hold your troops in readiness to move at that hour.

Very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Guiney's Station, Va., May 22, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. R. B. POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: Upon the approach of General Crittenden to your position, you will move out your command to New Bethel Church, where you will make your headquarters, and throw forward a regi-

ment at least to each of the crossings of the Ta River, on roads leading from New Bethel Church to Carrat's [Cobbett's] Tavern and Coleman's old academy. Major Morton will probably be at your place in advance of General Crittenden's column.

Very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

General R. B. POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: Your dispatch just received, and the order sending Colonel Curtin's brigade to Guiney's Station is rescinded, and he will join you. Please instruct Lieutenant Remington, in charge of our headquarters train, to return with his train to the house on the hill just this side of General Meade's headquarters, where the remainder of the Ninth Corps and the Sixth Corps are to be halted. The cavalry escort will return with them. Will send you further orders during the day.

Yours, truly,

A. E. BURNSIDE.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Guiney's Station, Va., May 22, 1864

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Comdg. Third Division, Ninth Army Corps:

In accordance with instructions from general headquarters [Armies of the] United States, you will move your command promptly at 9.30 a. m. to-day to New Bethel Church, a point about 5 miles from your present position and about 2 miles from General Potter's present position. General Crittenden will precede you, starting at 9 o'clock. Please instruct the commanding officers to inform their men it will be but a short march, and they will then have a day's rest, and the general commanding particularly desires that there be no straggling.

I am, general, very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
White House, Va., May 22, 1864—9 a. m.
(Received 1.20 a. m. 24th.)

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report that General Gregg's and General Wilson's divisions drove enemy's cavalry from Walnut Grove across the Chickahominy, but could not get them to stand. While their cavalry was thus engaged, I ordered General Custer's brigade by the river road near the south bank of the Pamunkey to burn the railroad bridges over the South Anna. He found them so strongly guarded by the enemy's artillery and infantry that he was unable to

burn them. He, however, burned two bridges and a portion of the Central railroad south of Hanover Court-House. The bridges were respectively 30 and 100 feet in length. The country here is in a terrible state of consternation. I have two gun-boats and three transports with rations here. The impression throughout the country is that I am landing infantry at this place. The rebel general Gordon, wounded in the engagement at Meadow Bridge, has since died of his wounds. Enemy have lost in killed the following distinguished cavalry commanders in their engagements with my command since the opening of the campaign: First, Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, commanding rebel Cavalry Corps; second, Brigadier-General Gordon, commanding brigade in Hampton's division; third, Colonel Pate, commanding brigade in Lee's division; fourth, Colonel Collins, commanding Fifteenth Virginia Cavalry; fifth, Colonel Green, commanding regiment; sixth, Colonel Randolph, commanding regiment.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

This was brought down by Captain Babcock, commanding gunboat, who says it was handed to him yesterday evening, but he could not get away till 10 a. m. to-day; that everything was progressing finely when he left this morning. This explains delay.

GEO. D. SHELDON,
Manager Fort Monroe Military Telegraph.

HDQRS. CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

As General Warren is at Guiney's Bridge, can't the cavalry of mine, about 130 men, be ordered to report to me? Nearly all of my men are out.

Yours, respectfully,

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General TORBERT,
Commanding Cavalry:

I have the honor herewith to transmit a copy of an order* which has been received from the lieutenant-general commanding, the execution of which will suspend temporarily the carrying out of the instructions given this evening for the replacing of mounted recruits by veteran dismounted cavalry, and the commanding general directs that you report to Major-General Hancock with your command before 5 a. m. to-morrow.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See orders, headquarters Army of the Potomac, May 22, 10 p. m., p. 81.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 22, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major KERWIN,
Commanding Cavalry:

I am directed to say that the instructions sent to you this evening requiring you to send the recruits of your command to Bowling Green to-morrow morning, there to be replaced by veteran dismounted men, are suspended; and the commanding general directs that you cause an officer of your command to report at these headquarters punctually at 5 a. m. to-morrow, to receive special instructions for your guidance.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Guiney's Station, Va., May 22, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding, &c., Fredericksburg, Va.:

GENERAL: Have all empty teams that have returned to Fredericksburg and Belle Plain loaded with supplies, and send them forward with such supply trains as are now at these places to Bowling Green at once. Transfer without delay all other supplies to Port Royal, which will be made our base until further orders. March the garrisons at Belle Plain and Fredericksburg by the Port Royal road to Port Royal, leaving, however, a sufficient force at Fredericksburg to protect the wounded and transportation for same until they can be moved north, after which the force thus left will follow to Port Royal, and Fredericksburg abandoned.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that, from information derived from my cavalry scouts and contrabands daily arriving here, I have reason to believe that there are more guerrillas between this point and Port Royal than the small cavalry force at my disposal can look after, having but six companies of the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, which, after deducting messengers, escorts, details for the engineer, telegraph, road and bridge construction, leaves me with a comparatively small force for other purposes. If I had mounted troops sufficient to clear the country between Rappahannock and Potomac Creek of these marauders and arrest all disloyal persons, a small cavalry force could then (with due diligence) keep them out. All the cavalry that I can send out with safety to the depot are constantly employed (notwithstanding their excursions extend but a few miles in circuit), scarcely ever returning without having a skirmish with, and bringing in from 2 to 8 dismounted cavalry.

I have the honor to be, yours, respectfully,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 22, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

This p. m. the telegraphic communication was interrupted between here and your headquarters. Men have been sent to mend the wires. I have your order to abandon this place and go to Port Royal. Am I to draw in all guards of Aquia railroad, telegraph, and road to Fredericksburg? What disposition am I to make of six batteries of Reserve Artillery from Army of the Potomac encamped here? I will send everything off as fast as possible, and will leave here as soon as the rebel prisoners are shipped. Is it intended by your order the garrison of Belle Plain should march by way of Fredericksburg, or direct from here to Port Royal? There are three engines and sixty cars now on the Aquia and Fredericksburg Railroad. One hundred and fifty bales of straw are here that can be used in the sixty cars for wounded.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 22, 1864—8.30 p. m.
(Received 10.55 p. m.)

WAR DEPARTMENT:

I have been ordered by General Grant to abandon this place for Port Royal, sending loaded barges there, and loading teams to Bowling Green.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Camp at Belle Plain, May 22, 1864.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE:

DEAR GENERAL: I have not received any orders yet about my bridges, which are here to the extent of over 1,000 feet, and which I shall raft for towing at once, as soon as you can dispense with them as wharves, for from my previous orders I suppose they will wish me to take them to Washington, as I have already two bridges over the Rappahannock which can be towed down to Port Royal. If you received your orders from General Grant I suppose his adjutant-general was not exactly aware of my situation here. Had they come from General Meade (if he can give them to you) I think he would have sent me instructions at the same time. I fear I shall have to send an orderly to the front to get the proper orders as to what they wish me to do. I had halted my 400 men, 2½ miles out, to repair the swampy place there, but I have now sent to recall them. If you have any suggestions to make different from what I here propose, I shall be very happy to receive them. I shall have to ask your authority, I presume, to secure me a steamer for my men, some 600 to 700, with some 210 animals, and two tugs for my pontoon rafts and barges. I most feel sure they will not wish the bridges and trains I have here sent around to Port Royal. I have not the trucks here to carry them overland, even if they wished it.

Very truly, yours,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Corps, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: General Abercrombie desires me to say to you that he is about to telegraph to General Grant, and if you wish it he will telegraph in relation to your pontoons, &c. Your servant's family can be brought in to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT L. ORR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., *May* 22, 1864.

Captain ORR,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Lieutenant-General Grant has ordered General Ferrero, who has heretofore covered our right, to Guiney's Station, 10 miles south of this. I report the fact to you as having bearing on the defenses of this place; there is no artillery here that I am aware of. I send the troops, as they arrive here, to accompany trains, agreeable to orders from General Grant.

ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General, Commanding.

MAY 22, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER,
Commanding Forces, Fredericksburg:

Your telegram of this date has been received. The general commanding desires me to say that you will reserve a sufficient force from the troops passing to the front for the protection of Fredericksburg, and you will report the number of troops to general commanding. I have but one four-gun battery here, which is required for the protection of this post and depot.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fredericksburg, May 22, 1864.

Capt. R. L. ORR,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Belle Plain:

CAPTAIN: I have your letter of the 21st instant respecting paroled prisoners; also a small mail to-night by the messenger. It will depend on circumstances whether more infantry will be required here. I telegraphed you that General Ferrero had, by orders, uncovered the right and gone to Guiney's Station. If the enemy should see fit to make a raid on this town, where there are many wounded and much property, the force here to resist it ought to be considerably increased. There is no artillery here. Perhaps it would be as well for the general to come up here, if he has time, to look to this subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General, Commanding.

MAY 22, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER,
Fredericksburg:

There are 500 men and fifty wagons on the road to Fredericksburg. General Lockwood's brigade and three regiments march at 3 this p. m.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fredericksburg, May 22, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: Under the requirements of General Grant's special orders, dated May 20, re-enforcements for the army arriving here have been halted for the purpose of escorting trains to the front. Yesterday the following reported: Lieutenant Swan, Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, with 100 men and 2 officers; Lieutenant Scripture, Seventh New York Heavy Artillery, with 40 men; Major Taft, Ninth New York Heavy Artillery, 1,800 men. All these officers and troops were sent forward at different hours as circumstances demanded. The Twenty-third and Eighty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers also reported, but are still here for the purpose of escorting to the front trains expected hourly from Belle Plain. In passing around the suburbs of the town on the Falmouth side to ascertain if there were any troops available for guards who had not reported, an officer happened upon Major Taft's command, who, on being accosted, wondered how I knew he was there. He was directed to report to me, and on doing so, at 2.45 p. m. on the 21st, he exhibited the following order—

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 18, 1864.

The following detail is ordered from the Ninth New York Heavy Artillery: Four hundred men properly officered to guard a train of wagons forward. This detail will report to Captain Pitkin, assistant quartermaster, at the wharf, at 5 a. m. May 19, 1864, with rations, and will report to their proper officer in the Army of the Potomac when the duty is accomplished.

By order of Brigadier-General Abercrombie:

ROBERT L. ORR,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Col. J. WELLING,
Ninth New York Heavy Artillery.

and made the following statement:

Three companies arrived at Fredericksburg on night of 19th at 9 p. m.; two at 12 or 1 midnight; three at 7 p. m. 20th; one at 8 a. m. 21st; two at 1 p. m. 21st; one is yet to come.

But for accidentally meeting this officer he probably would have remained where he was to this hour. The case is submitted for the commanding general's information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General, Commanding.

P. S.—The Twenty-third and Eighty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers have been ordered forward (12 m.) with a train arrived from Belle Plain.

E. S.

WASHINGTON, *May* 22, 1864—9 p. m.
(Received 1.40 p. m. 23d.)

General BUTLER:

On Friday night General Grant commenced a flank movement to compel Lee to abandon his position at Spotsylvania Court-House. It has thus far progressed successfully. Longstreet moved south Friday night after Hancock had moved. Ewell followed last night. It is believed the rebel army will take position behind the South Anna. Hoke's force has joined Lee. Nothing of importance from any other quarter.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CURTIS HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
May 22, 1864—5 p. m.

General BUTLER:

Please report the return of the flag of truce that I may resume firing.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 67. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *In the Field, Va., May* 22, 1864.

I. First Lieut. Peter S. Michie, U. S. Engineers, is hereby appointed assistant to chief engineer of this department, and will report to Brig. Gen. G. Weitzel for duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, May 22, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: It is desirable to ascertain the position and strength of the enemy, whether there is any movement, and also whether there is any movement on the railroad. You are authorized to offer rewards for this purpose, not exceeding $500 each, to any shrewd, keen, adventurous men to the number of not more than 6, who will in their uniform penetrate the enemy's line during the night as scouts and ascertain their condition and bring in valuable and reliable information. Explain to the men what is desired, and explain to them that false information will be as rigidly punished as true and valuable knowledge brought will be promptly and amply rewarded.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

(Same to General Smith.)

GILLMORE'S,
May 22, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The dead bodies between our pickets and those of the enemy on Terry's front are becoming very offensive. I respectfully suggest that they be buried under a flag of truce.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Colonel SHAFFER:

I have received four blue flags. I propose to replace the stars on the division flags by the corps' badge, which is a square bastioned fort, very like a star in effect. I presume there can be no objection to this.

Yours, &c.,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

CURTIS' HOUSE, *May* 22, 1864—12.15 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

Will you give me a list of your working parties, their numbers, the divisions from which they are detailed, and the points at which they are employed to-day?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Officer will await answer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, May 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you furnish my assistant, Capt. S. C. Eaton, with a detail of 200 men, with proper proportion of tools, and 25 engineer soldiers, with proper proportion of non-commissioned officers, to report to-morrow morning at 7 o'clock, and that you renew this detail daily, until Captain Eaton reports the work finished.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Engineers.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 22, 1864—10.10 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

The commanding general directs that you furnish the tools at the rate of one tool to every 3 men, taking them from those portions of

the works you think least necessary, or, if all portions are equally necessary, take them proportionately from all. Those two works must go on.

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Engineers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 17. } HDQRS. TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 22, 1864.*

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3. In obedience to orders from department headquarters, the commanding officer of the Seventh New York Battery will report with his battery to Major-General Smith.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 22, 1864—7.30 p. m. (Received 7.55 p. m.)

Captain SEALY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Ascertain from General Terry when the flag of truce is closed, and have him report the same to Admiral Lee.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. 1ST DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS, *Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 22, 1864.*

Battery M, First U. S. Artillery, Capt. L. L. Langdon commanding, having been transferred to the Third Division, Tenth Army Corps, Capt. Alfred P. Rockwell, First Connecticut Light Battery, is announced as chief of artillery on the staff of the brigadier-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., May 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,
Commanding Second Division, Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that in carrying out the instructions received from department headquarters fixing the disposition of the troops to repel an attack, you select a place for encamping your command nearer to the intrenchments than the one now occupied by them, with a view to obviating the neces-

sity of their so frequently leaving their camp in case of alarm. I am also instructed by him to direct that the disposition indicated in the instructions above mentioned be made to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

Captain READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General to General Brooks:

CAPTAIN: General Gillmore sends me word that the supports to the detached redoubt on my left have been relieved, and orders that I send some there at once. It was understood by Generals Brooks and Weitzel, as well as by myself, that General Brooks would supply this detail. I would respectfully inquire if the detail is to be sent by General B.; otherwise, I will send it at once.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

[General A. AMES:]

GENERAL: The detail to occupy the redoubt has been ordered from General Burnham's brigade, and will be sent there at once.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 22, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: This communication and indorsement is all that is required by the major-general commanding, in reference to the support for the detached redoubt, is it not?

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The accompanying valise, belonging to Brigadier-General Walker, was received from the enemy's flag of truce by one of my staff officers with the proviso that, should it contain anything objectionable, it would be immediately returned and not forwarded to the general.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 22, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

All the dispositions have been made as far as circumstances will admit, but they cover in spirit the commanding general's order. The enemy probably wanted our picket-line in front of General Ames, and I think they must have taken it. It is probably restored by this time.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
May 22, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

I would respectfully request that Regan's (Seventh New York) battery be either returned to duty with this corps, or else transferred to the Tenth Corps, as the commanding general may direct.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

MAY 22, 1864—7 p. m.

General WEITZEL,
Chief of Engineers, Department of Virginia, &c.:

Orders have been issued regarding the work in our front with the exception of the two redoubts. I have withdrawn all working parties on this day, Sunday, as I make that my practice when I do not consider it absolutely necessary. Besides the men require rest.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 22, 1864. (Received 12.30 a. m. 23d.)

General BUTLER:

I have sent out 7 trusty men—1 in excess of your number.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 22. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., May 22, 1864.*

A thorough inspection of all the troops will be immediately made this a. m., and reports in a consolidated form sent in to these headquarters. The principal object will be to find out the exact condition of the armament of the troops, the number, kind, and caliber of arms and the accouterments missing, &c. Those who may have thrown away their arms on the field or march will be brought to trial if it be possible to find any guilty of such crime.

By command of Major-General Smith:

NICOLAS BOWEN,
Lieut. Col. and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 23. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., May 22, 1864.*

I. Division commanders will send immediately the names of officers that may be appointed as provost-marshals of divisions and brigades. A guard of 10 mounted men has been sent to each division for provost duty; they will perform such duty only and on no occasion be used as orderlies.

II. All contrabands throughout camp will be collected immediately and sent to these headquarters. Only the usual allowance of officers' servants and company cooks will be recognized. A strict compliance of this order is required at once.

By command of Major-General Smith:

NICOLAS BOWEN,
Lieut. Col. and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 24. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., May 22, 1864.*

A thorough inspection of all the transportation of this corps will be made by the quartermaster of the respective commands at 8 a. m. to-morrow. All deficiencies will be immediately supplied and all repairs made and everything done to render it perfectly effective. Attention will be given to the cleaning and oiling of harness, grooming of horses, greasing of wheels, good condition of running-gear and water buckets, the tightening of nuts, screws, &c. The Ambulance Corps will be supplied at once by the quartermaster's department with its full allowance of forage wagons, forge, &c.

By command of Major-General Smith:

NICOLAS BOWEN,
Lieut. Col. and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. T. H. BROOKS,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The following is a copy of instructions received this day from department headquarters:

IN THE FIELD, *May* 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to call your attention to the following points, all of which you have undoubtedly observed: Fort Wisconsin and the work at the creek should be pushed to completion. The trees on the ravine on Martindale's and Brooks' fronts should be more fully slashed. There should be a traverse across the opening in Dutton's line. The abatis in front of Marston should be completed, General Brooks to furnish the garrison for the redoubt in advance of his right; this garrison to keep out an independent picket-line. General Brooks told me verbally he would attend to this. A new redoubt will be laid out in the open ground in rear of and near Brooks' right. General Marston told me he would build it with detail from his command. He desires this privilege. The portion of the line joining Dutton and Martindale is not complete, nor are all the banquettes constructed.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General and Chief Engineer.

The general commanding trusts that it will not be necessary for any further order from department headquarters in order to complete the defenses in front of the Eighteenth Corps.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NICOLAS BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. T. H. BROOKS,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding corps desires me to say that he does not think the present disposition of troops along a portion of your front in his opinion a desirable one. He directs that the space between General Martindale's left and the right of your line in the trenches be occupied by one of the regiments of your command, with sufficient interval between companies, in order to cover the entire space where they will camp. Sentinels will be posted on the parapets, and this disposition will not be changed unless you or the general commanding corps order it.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NICOLAS BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. H. MARTINDALE,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding corps directs me to say that any space left unoccupied by troops in your front be filled by a regiment with such space between companies that the whole may be covered, and you will post sentinels along the parapet. This regiment will camp along the trenches and the disposition will not be changed unless by order of the general commanding corps.

I am, general,

NICOLAS BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 22, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH:

SIR: I take the liberty of writing you a few lines to say I arrived here with a full regiment, over 1,200 men, fully armed and equipped, and well mounted and well drilled and disciplined, expecting to be sent to the front as cavalry. To-day we were ordered to turn in our horses and arms and to-morrow to draw muskets and act as infantry. I have been in the cavalry service now nearly three years, and have done as much as many other officers more favored. I feel the humiliation very sorely. Can you do anything for me? Can you have my regiment ordered under you, or even have myself with

you? I am anxious to be doing something. I saw Captain West to-day; he told me where you were. If you can do anything for me with General Grant I will ever feel grateful.

I am, general, with much respect, your obedient servant,

WM. H. BOYD,
Colonel Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry,
Late Captain First New York Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS FORTIETH MASSACHUSETTS,
May 22, 1864.

Major-General SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that you will use your influence to have me assigned to the Eighteenth Corps. My regiment belonged to the Eleventh, now Twentieth, Corps, and has never been transferred to the Tenth by orders from the War Department. My reasons for asking for this change are, that I am not satisfied with my commanders, and my regiment would prefer being with their State troops. The assignment of commands has been regulated apparently by favoritism. I was very willing to abide by any decision till I found myself placed under incompetent persons, and then my duty to myself and my regiment demanded that I should, if possible, get it changed. The records of the War Department show that in command of my battery, regiment, and brigade I have always done my duty as a soldier, and as such I should like to be treated. Trusting you will not regard this as a complaint, but as a desire to serve under soldiers, I remain,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GUY V. HENRY,
Colonel Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers.

MAY 22, 1864—7.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER CITY POINT:

Inform me if General Hinks has returned. Let me know at once your opinion of the condition of the Point; its capability of resisting attack, and in general what is the present position. Also the same information regarding Fort Powhatan, if General Hinks has returned.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 22, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILD,
Wilson's Wharf:

I am informed that there is a signal station working at Harrison's Landing. Is it not possible to break it up?

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 22, 1864—9.15 p. m.

General BUTLER:

I returned last night at 12 o'clock; Powhatan is safe. Can hold City Point against a greatly superior force. I forwarded a detailed report* of operations by a messenger this p. m. Everything is quiet on our front.

E. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 26. HDQRS. 3D DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS, *City Point, Va., May 22, 1864.*

I. Paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 24, dated headquarters Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, City Point, Va., May 20, 1864, relating to the disposition of the artillery of this division, is so modified as to leave two sections of Captain Howell's battery (M), Third New York Artillery, at Fort Powhatan, and one section at Wilson's Wharf. The other changes contemplated in the above-named order will be made as soon as possible.

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V. Brig. Gen. E. A. Wild, commanding First Brigade, will order four companies of infantry, under the command of a lieutenant-colonel or major, to report to Colonel Kiddoo for duty at Fort Powhatan.

By command of Brig. Gen. E. W. Hinks:

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Farrar's Island, James River, May 22, 1864.
(Via Fort Monroe, 4.30 p. m. 24th. Received 5 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Monitors practice at Howlett Battery, firing 15-inch shell with great accuracy, but with no chance of stopping the progress of this commanding rebel work. The 15-inch is a great gun truly. Last night the enemy attacked the army, and were handsomely repulsed. Navy was in a position to fire if desired by signal from army, but no signal was made by army, as the direction of firing must be uncertain over high hills and woods.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

FORT MAGRUDER, *May 22, 1864.*

Lieutenant SCHROEDER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Lieutenant Libean, in charge of picket at Jamestown Island, learns from a contraband that a force of some 40 rebels is at Surry

*See Part II, p. 167.

Court-House. A picket of 3 men posted on the bank of the river opposite to him. Quite a number of contrabands are reported as anxious to get away from the opposite shore. No force can be sent from this post.

WM. H. P. STEERE,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 22, 1864.

Col. H. T. SISSON,
Fifth Rhode Island Volunteers:

SIR: I have learned with surprise that the impression has prevailed in your regiment that the recent changes in the disposition of the troops in the various field-works around this place were made for the reason that I thought the duty at these places had not been well or imperfectly performed. After the many tokens of approbation expressed to yourself and the officers of your regiment at the forts recently vacated by them, I could scarcely believe that orders so plainly necessitated by the exigencies of the same, could be so construed. The ideas imputed to me at least never existed. I learned with still more surprise that certain officers of your regiment conceived it proper to make certain statements in writing reflecting upon me and calculated to injure me as an officer.

As you are about leaving this district under orders from me, which I had every reason to believe would be very gratifying to you, while they would be for the very best interest of the service, I desire to state to you that no disapprobation of the manner in which the companies of your regiment performed their duty was ever expressed or even thought. On the contrary I never visited any of the places occupied by them without expressing, and that too in the kindest possible manner, my gratification, and the changes which were unwillingly made in the disposition of the forces were plainly necessitated by the condition of the forces now remaining under my command, and the cordial acquiescence on the part of those who have during a time of war so quietly and comfortably occupied these positions was certainly expected.

As to the statement of those officers which I have before mentioned I can only say that if they were conscientiously made they should be fairly considered. You will probably agree with me, however, that the fair and manly course for these officers to pursue, would be to present a copy of their statement to me in order that I may be able to meet the affair in a proper way.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 23, 1864—11 p. m. (Received 4 p. m. 24th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The army moved from its position of this morning to the North Anna, following closely Lee's army. The Fifth and Sixth Corps

marched by way of Harris' Store to Jericho Ford, and the Fifth Corps succeeded in effecting a crossing and getting position without much opposition. Shortly after, however, they were violently attacked, but handsomely repulsed the assault without much loss to us. We captured some prisoners. The Second Corps holds the bridge just above the railroad, and the Ninth Corps is between that and Jericho Ford, on the north bank, in face of the enemy. It is doubtful whether troops can be crossed except where the Fifth and Sixth Corps are. Everything looks exceedingly favorable for us.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, May 23, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your dispatch from Bethel Church, dated 6.30 [8] p. m. yesterday, is received. In accordance with your previous directions Generals Meigs and Barnard were sent to the James River, with orders to report by telegraph how many troops could be spared and on the means of water transportation. The moment I receive it I will give the orders for the proposed movement. If the enemy retreats behind the South Anna, West Point would be the proper place to occupy, but until he does so I think it would be unwise and exceedingly hazardous to attempt to hold both City Point and West Point, as the enemy might concentrate on either and crush it out. I shall, therefore, order any troops that Meigs and Barnard think can be spared from Butler's command to Tappahannock or Port Royal; to the latter if you are still in the vicinity of Bowling Green or the North Anna. Whatever I can raise here will be sent to same place till further orders. Permit me to repeat what I have so often urged, that in my opinion every man we can collect should be hurled against Lee, wherever he may be, as his army, not Richmond, is the true objective point of this campaign. When that army is broken, Richmond will be of very little value to the enemy. Demonstrations on that place exhaust us more than they injure the rebels, for it will require 2 men outside to keep 1 in Richmond. I once thought that this could be more than compensated for by destroying their lines of supply, but experience has proved that they can repair them just about as fast as we can destroy them; such at least was the case under Dix and Foster, and I think Butler's operations will have no better result. I have no doubt we shall soon have loud calls for re-enforcements in West Virginia, but I shall not send any unless you so order, for I have very little faith in these collateral operations. The little good they accomplish seldom equals their cost in men and money. If you succeed in crushing Lee all will be well; if you fail, we immediately lose whatever we may have gained in West Virginia or around Richmond. I therefore propose to send to you everything I can get without regard to the calls of others, until you direct otherwise.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, May 23, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

What you say in your note of the 20th about the major-generals is correct. There are two vacancies. The law allows five. You filled an original vacancy, and I last year urged Sherman's name for Wool's place; but could not get him appointed. Your promotion makes a second vacancy, and I have urged the names of Meade and Sherman, and Hancock for Meade's place as brigadier. There is some obstacle in the way and I can't remove it. I am not certain what it is but can guess. Perhaps you will be enlightened a little by knowing what are some of the outside influences. I understand the names of Butler and Sickles have been strongly urged by politicians, in order they say to break down "West Point influence." It will not be difficult to draw conclusions. This is *entre nous.*

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Moncure's House, Va., May 23, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The Second Corps will proceed to suitable camping-grounds on the banks of the North Anna, near the New Bridge, which is the crossing of the Telegraph road over the Anna. If possible, the bridge and crossing will be secured. This corps will also extend east to hold the railroad bridge. The Ninth Corps will take position to the right of the Second Corps and will seize Ox Ford, a ford over the Anna next west of New Bridge. If practicable, this ford will also be held. The Fifth Corps will occupy the bank of the river to cover and hold Jericho Ford. The Sixth Corps will take place on the right of the Fifth Corps. If any bridge or ford is to their front it will be seized and held; if none in front efforts will be made to open roads to the river at points where crossings may be effected to their front.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 23, 1864—8 a.m.

Brigadier-General BENHAM:

Your dispatch of last evening received. As your instructions to proceed to Belle Plain did not pass through me, I presume your instructions governed the present case. Take the bridge at Belle Plain to Washington, and await orders there, providing for towing what is at Fredericksburg to Port Royal, and wherever after it may be needed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Corps, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: General Abercrombie requests me to inform you that he will march for Port Royal overland and not by way of Fredericksburg. Can you have the pontoon bridges there for crossing the troops?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT L. ORR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 23, 1864.

General BENHAM:

GENERAL: I sent your dispatch for General Humphreys to him, although it was directed to General Abercrombie. The messenger who brought it is detained at Captain Slosson's to convey General H.'s answer to you.

ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General.

NORTH ANNA SIGNAL STATION,
May 23, 1864—4.30 p. m.

[General HANCOCK?:]

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that observations just made from a tree top disclosed five guns in position and in use by the enemy near the railroad bridge. About 300 cavalry were seen to move back from the river and disappear in the woods, clouds of dust rising from woods about 1 mile beyond the river.

TAYLOR.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

SIR: The head of my column is at Old Chesterfield, half a mile from the depot. I am now about advancing. I am afraid General Torbert, commanding the cavalry, has taken the wrong road, as he has run into your column. My impression is that my road leads by the station.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Old Chesterfield, May 23, 1864—11.05 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

SIR: The head of my column has arrived, and the First Division is massed here. My advance has been at the depot. The infantry

is now proceeding toward Chesterfield Ford. My cavalry appears to have turned off to the right from this place, and have gone to Jericho Ford, which they now hold on this side, the enemy's cavalry being on the other side. I have already communicated with General Warren's column on my right, which appears to have been marching on the road to Jericho Bridge, two divisions of it. General Warren, thinking he was on the wrong road, has, I understand, taken these two divisions off more to the right. General Torbert has passed from here down the same road and struck that column. I shall hold Jericho Bridge until General Burnside comes up, but shall get General Torbert to come down and get possession of Chesterfield Ford. In the mean time I shall push the infantry on. The guns that are firing occasionally are either from General Torbert or the head of General Warren's column.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 23, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: If it is necessary for column to follow Torbert I will not be in the way. The map is so erroneous that it is difficult to tell which way to go, by anything named on it. I have followed the Telegraph road, which runs nearly south, 20 degrees east (I have mapped it), and found myself much nearer the railroad than I expected. I doubt the existence of the road between it and the railroad, as laid down. I was skirmishing Rosser's cavalry back when Torbert got up, and had gotten in view of the river. Torbert went ahead, and I think drove the foe from the south side. A deserter says there is infantry and artillery there. I gave way to Torbert, and am now prospecting further up the stream at what is called Jericho Mills. There is said to be a ford there, but no bridge. The road General Torbert came out on strikes the Telegraph road at Carmel Church, and by the Telegraph road thence it is perhaps 2 or 3 miles to the North Anna. Captain Miller, who has just arrived, says you are about 1½ miles of and a little northeast of Carmel Church. If you communicate with General Meade will you please forward this for his information.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 23, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Colonel WALKER:

COLONEL: At Mount Carmel Church, about 1½ miles from where I left General Hancock, I found General Warren. At the church the road forks; General Torbert has taken the left-hand road with his cavalry, General Warren the right-hand, with his corps.

W. D. W. MILLER,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—11.40 a. m. (Received 12.45 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: Upon subsequent inquiry I have become pretty well satisfied that I must take the road that leads to the right from Old Chesterfield, and proceed a mile to the road on which Warren's two divisions have been moving, from which, I understand, he has moved them off. I am now proceeding there. There is nothing at the depot on the other road in my front, and the river is 6 miles distant in that direction from that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Near Ox Ford, May [23 ?], 1864—1 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I have arrived here—about three-fourths of a mile from the river. The ford here is known as Ox Ford. There is a bridge also (that is, the bridge was standing last week), some little distance below, say one-half mile, called Taylor's Bridge. The bridge is over the Telegraph road. There is no such ford known here, so far as I can ascertain, as Chesterfield Ford. Jericho Mills and Ford are about 3 or 4 miles above this. I have sent some infantry down to seize both bridge and ford. The enemy's sharpshooters occupy the other side. I don't think they have any force; they have some little artillery, but appearances indicate that they are not strong. We shall soon know. General Warren's column is on my right, and I am in close connection with it. I am massing my troops in front of the position. A prisoner was captured yesterday, who just came from the defenses of Savannah. He says that all the troops there have been ordered up here.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Jericho Mills, May 23, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The enemy made no show of resistance here; my infantry are fording. I do not believe they mean to hold the North Anna. Will you communicate with General Meade, if you know where he is.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Near Ox Ford, May 23, 1864—1.45 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The enemy seem to be passing in large force on the other side of the river. They are now extending down across the

railroad on their side. I am putting skirmishers down to the bridge and ford, and we will see whether it appears possible for us to command their approaches. I am extending my troops across the railroad also.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—2.35 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I am now at Taylor's Bridge, where the enemy have epaulements and some batteries. My skirmishers are across, and I am just pushing them forward a short distance. I am planting batteries, to have a cover-fire, and if I think I can hold the crossing and establish a bridge-head, I will do so, although, as I have no orders to cross, I shall not do so unless it appears pretty plain. I am extending to the left across the railroad, my right resting in front of General Cutler's position (Fifth Corps, Carmel Church), and am picketing the river.

The enemy appear to be in force, although I do not think he can prevent a crossing. I can hear the whistle of locomotives frequently on the Virginia Central. A good many troops have been seen across the river, yet they appear to be marching down; therefore I have extended my left. I have no doubt a respectable force is holding my front, on account of the epaulements, &c., there, but whether they expect to remain long enough to dispute the passage strongly I do not know yet. I have just received a dispatch from Warren, stating that his men are fording the river. The depth of the river seems to be no obstacle. In position the enemy appear to have some advantage over me. Shall I force a crossing?

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

I have ordered Warren to cross his whole corps and intrench. Wright, I think, had better take position on this side, to support Warren. Shall Hancock force a crossing?

GEO. G. MEADE.

[Second indorsement.]

MAY 23, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

By all means. I would have Warren cross all the men he can to-night, and intrench himself strongly. There is but little likelihood that he will be pushed by the enemy, and if he is he can be re-enforced or could fall back by the same road, as necessity might require.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I have just received your dispatch of 2 p. m. by Captain Bache. So far as I am concerned, all the movements are anticipated. My left crosses the railroad, and my right rests temporarily at Ox Ford, by a detached brigade, until General Burnside gets up. My center is opposite Taylor's Bridge, and I have three regiments across; am just waiting for my artillery (which is very slow) to open, to see if I can make a bridge-head over there. If you hear any firing, that will be it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

[First indorsement.]

Hancock has three regiments across. I should think, from present indications, Lee is going to hold the Pamunkey and South Anna. Shall Hancock cross his whole force, if practicable?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
May 23, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

If Hancock can secure a crossing, he should do so. If, however, the bulk of the enemy appears to be to the left of him, our cavalry should picket well down, to see that no detachment of the enemy gets in on our left.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: The bridge at Taylor's Bridge, if there was one there, is no longer standing. The stream is a small one; the water only about 12 inches deep, with a sandy bottom. The crossing-place is about 12 feet wide. A negro came in to-day; left Hanover Junction yesterday at 4.20 p. m.; says that the head of the enemy's column arrived there yesterday before he left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 23, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: It is now reported that the creek which the enemy's earth-works command is not the river, but that the river is 500 yards

behind. They have strong earth-works there. The enemy are constantly moving troops by brigades in full sight. I think the earth-works can be taken between the creek and the river. I am waiting for my artillery to open, but it takes some time to find positions for it. I have a brigade across the creek now waiting for my artillery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: A contraband has just come in from across the river, who states that all the enemy's forces are stationed from opposite here down to Hanover Junction; that all the corps are there—Hill, Longstreet, and Ewell, and General Lee; but that some of the troops are moving to the right toward Richmond. I send you the information for what it may be worth.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

The contraband reports that the river is about half a mile from the creek; that it can be easily forded; that there is a bridge across it about 25 yards wide. He says also that it is commanded by fortifications.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 23, 1864—4.35 p. m.

General MEADE:

GENERAL: I have received by Captain Meade the dispatch* from General Grant. I have not seen General Torbert for two hours. I have sent to find him in order to instruct him according to the terms of the dispatch, as I had done before. From present appearances it looks as if no crossing of the river can be forced here at present, as all accounts agree that the enemy are in force, and there is a creek between us and the river, with obstacles, to be passed—the said obstacles consisting of batteries, with epaulements, as before reported, and the same on the other side of the river. I have a brigade across the creek, and am endeavoring to get my artillery to open to enable them to take the works, but the country is so wooded and unknown, as well as little favorable for artillery, that it takes time.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

CARMEL CHURCH—4.35 P. M.

I send a dispatch from Warren with this. I have ordered Wright down to Warren's crossing.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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*See second indorsement, Grant to Meade, 4.15 p. m., p. 120.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 23, 1864—7.50 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: Two brigades of Birney's division assaulted the enemy's earth-work and rifle-pits which they held this side of the river and behind a creek. The assault was a gallant one. The works were carried; the enemy were driven across the river with a small loss in prisoners. It is understood the pits were held by McLaws. Colonel Egan reports that he holds the bridge, so that he can cross. This is probably true, but as the message came by an orderly, I do not report it as absolutely true. Lieutenant Mackenzie, engineer, just from the front, reports that the above is correct.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—9.20 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

SIR: The enemy appear to have fortified the position opposite me some five months since. They have some half dozen strong detached earth-works for artillery well back from the river. The crest of the hill they occupy in rear of these works is fringed with woods, and if the enemy have rifle-pits now, they are just in the edge of the woods. The works I carried were this side of the river. I hold a position close to and commanding the bridge, and may carry it to-night. But if General Warren has crossed two divisions, as reported, it may be better to hold this point, and cross most of the troops where Warren is. The position I hold in advance is well under the guns of the redoubts mentioned, and there may be difficulty in advancing beyond this point. One division of my corps is east of the railroad, the others on the west side. My picket-line is on the river, except for a short distance near the railroad bridge. The enemy have no men on this side of the river in my front now.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 23, 1864—11 p. m.
(Received 12.30 a. m. 24th.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your dispatches of 7.50 and 9.20 received. I infer from the latter that you deem the crossing of the river in your front impracticable. It is desirable you should cross there, but the attempt should not be made unless, in your judgment, there is a reasonable degree of probability of success. The matter is, therefore, left to your discretion. Should you conclude it imprudent to attempt, you will make your arrangements to hold the bridge securely with the minimum force, and hold the balance available, ready to cross at Ox Ford in case Burnside can cross there, or where Warren has crossed. Should you attempt to force a passage and require support, Burnside has

been directed to furnish it on your application. In the same manner, in case you do not attempt to cross and Burnside does, and wants assistance, you will give it to him on his call. Advise me at the earliest moment of what you propose to do.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
Near Milford, May 23, 1864—2.30 a. m.

The following is the order of march for to-day, May 23: At 5 a. m. a force of cavalry under Brigadier-General Torbert will move in the direction of Chesterfield, supported by a brigade of infantry from General Birney's division, and followed by the entire command in the following order: Third Division, Major-General Birney; Fourth Division, Brigadier-General Tyler; Second Division, Brigadier-General Gibbon; First Division, Brigadier-General Barlow. The chief of artillery will assign two batteries to each division. The remainder of the artillery and the bridge train will move after the First Division, which will furnish a rear guard of a brigade. The ambulances and spring wagons will follow their divisions; other wagons will follow the artillery and bridge train, and will move under direction of Colonel Batchelder, chief quartermaster. Each division commander will see that the intrenching tools used by his command are properly repacked, and will send them to the train near corps headquarters. It is reported that roads can be found other than the one laid down on the map, from Milford to Chesterfield, via Athens; otherwise, and unless special instructions are given to the contrary, the command will move by the road. The regiments of heavy artillery will move with their own division. The Fifth Corps will be moving on our right flank, and the Ninth Corps on their flank or in rear. General Torbert, commanding cavalry, will endeavor to keep up communication with these commands, and will have all roads on the flank of the column thoroughly examined and picketed. Corps headquarters during the morning will be near the leading division. Unless the enemy are met before reaching the North Anna the command will move to Chesterfield.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 23, 1864—5.25 p. m.

General [GIBBON]:

General Barlow's skirmishers are across the river, and engaged, whether with cavalry or infantry do not know. He is trying to seize the road. General Birney is examining a ford higher up, but will not cross at present view of things. He reports seeing rebel infantry farther up. It is not supposed that this will affect the result of your operations. It looks as if Barlow had got the road. He will cross with great caution regiment by regiment.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 23, 1864.

General BIRNEY:

If possible keep your troops out of sight until we can develop what the enemy is doing. A rebel column is seen passing down on the other side. (Colonel Morgan says he has seen several thousand.) Colonel Tidball is looking for places to plant batteries, and Colonel M. says the best place is on the left, near the river road. There can be no reason, however, why we may not hold the river bank as well as the enemy. You will soon know what is possible. If you can't cross the river we will wait for orders.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 23, 1864—3.33 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: The First Brigade has crossed the creek, not river. The river is some 500 yards farther, and behind it they have strong earth-works. They are certainly moving troops by brigades in full sight. The small earth-work near the creek can be taken. Our artillery does not open or co-operate.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs me to say that he has directed Colonel Tidball to open as soon as possible. General Warren writes two hours ago that he has crossed above by fording. Whether it is the creek or the river, the major-general commanding does not know.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

TELEGRAPH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
May 23, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General WARREN:

A small body of enemy's infantry in position back of an embankment along the south bank of river in front of Telegraph road. A column of infantry and artillery moving rapidly toward our right, about a mile in rear of river, apparently moving into position. Infantry in position about a mile south of river.

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Signal Officer.

JERICHO MILLS, *May* 23, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The enemy made no show of resistance at this point. My infantry are fording. Pope's cavalry will follow the first brigade. I do not believe the enemy intends holding the North Anna. There is no bridge here. I am fording. The point is about 2 miles due west from the Telegraph road at Carmel Church.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

P. S.—I could have been over two hours sooner, but there was no one who knew the place as a bridge, and I was taken toward the bridge on the Telegraph road by a negro, who said he knew every bridge on the river.

G. K. W.

I have informed General Hancock, and asked him to send word to you if he knows where to. I fear this will be a long time reaching you.

[Indorsement.]

It appears from the within that Warren has crossed the river; should he go on or only hold the crossing? What should Wright do; cross after Warren or go to some point higher up?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—2.35 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

SIR: I am now at Taylor's Bridge, where the enemy have epaulements and some batteries. My skirmishers are across, and I am just pushing them forward a short distance. I am planting batteries, to have a cover-fire, and if I think I can seize the crossing and establish a bridge-head, I will do so, although as I have no orders to cross, I shall not do so unless it appears pretty plain. I also hold by a brigade a crossing 1½ miles to my right (the enemy have a battery there) which I suppose you will relieve as I am extending to the left across the railroad, my right resting in front of General Cutler's position (as I last saw it). I am picketing the river. The enemy appear to be in force, yet I doubt if they can prevent a crossing. I hear the whistles of the locomotives on the Virginia Central.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Jericho Mills, May 23, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

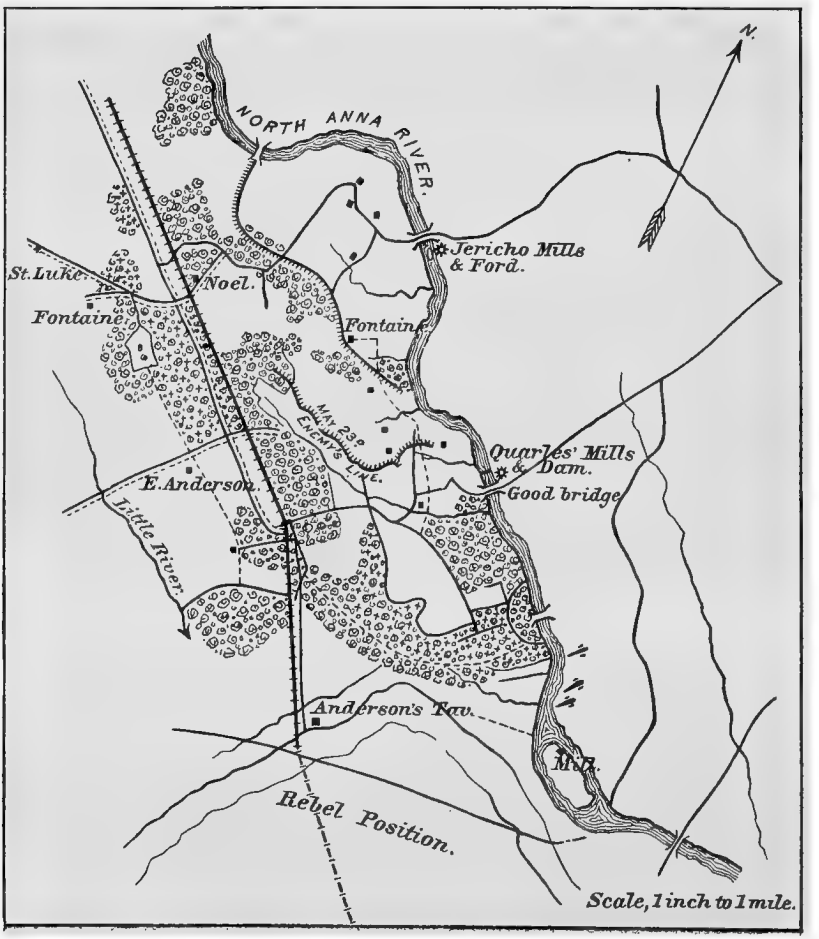
GENERAL: I took what I thought the right road from Harris' Store. My general course was south 20 degrees east. I was driving back Rosser's cavalry when I learned that General Hancock was coming that way. I immediately turned off Griffin's division to this point, and we saved the crossing. General Griffin's division is now over. He has advanced so that his sharpshooters cover the railroad. He had a skirmish with some South Carolina infantry in

doing so. The pontoon bridge is being laid, and General Crawford is now fording. This is a ford that wagons cannot use, and the approaches are very bad each side. I think I can get all over here if it is necessary with my usual train. A prisoner just brought in says Wilcox's division is waiting for us behind the railroad. It is a regiment of his sent out to feel us that Griffin drove back. There is said to be a bridge 2½ miles above here at Butler's Mill. I will send up and see what it is. Two of my squadrons went to Downer's Bridge, and I have not seen them since. Colonel Pope says some one put them on picket duty along some road. I hope you will remember in any expectation of what my cavalry can accomplish, that they must not be very great. I have sent you notes before of anything that occurred, but I fear the messenger has had trouble in finding you.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—I send you a sketch from here down to Hancock's crossing-place.

G. K. W.



HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 23, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch received. The major-general commanding directs that you pass your whole corps across the river and intrench yourself.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—The enemy are in front of Hancock and dispute the passage of the river.

A. A. H.

JERICHO MILLS, *May* 23, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have two divisions across and my bridge most laid, my line a mile out from the river. I am still of the opinion they are only trying to delay us by holding the bridges. They gain time everywhere perhaps by the slowness of my crossing. The bridge that I reported 2½ miles above me, is the one I believe that leads down from Chilesburg. I think General Wright should extend out and get possession of that for the crossing of all the trains, if needed. By advancing my corps I uncover I think all the bridges; but I shall hardly be in good condition to do so till late.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Carmel Church, May 23, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

Your train is parked here. What do you intend doing with it? The head of Wright's column will be here in half an hour. He was pushed to take post on your right, but now that you have crossed the river, he is directed to take post on this bank to support you. Wright will interpose between you and your train, unless it is got out of the way, and will probably do so with his troops before you can move it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Jericho Mills, May 23, 1864—4.45 p. m.

General MEADE:

I parked my train on purpose to get it out of the way of General Wright's troops. I shall not want much of it to-night, and if he will let that part pass after his troops so that the rations can be issued it will be all I want.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 23, 1864—4.45 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The commanding general considers it better that you should not cross your train to-night. Wright's head of column is not up yet, but will start as soon as it arrives, and as your train has begun to move it will be cut by his troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 23, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

We met your cavalry from Downer's Bridge yesterday afternoon between New Bethel Church and Madison's Ordinary. Since then nothing has been heard of them at these headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Carmel Church, May 23, 1864—6 p. m.

General WARREN:

I think it would be well if you could send down the river bank and look for a road leading to Ox Ford, where General Burnside is now moving to on Hancock's right. The head of General Wright's column is just coming up, too late to send him to [*sic*] join in a movement down the river. I have directed him to halt at the forks of the road leading to you and the one to Butler's Bridge. It will be dark before he gets there. I question the expediency of crossing your trains, for if the enemy is descending the Pamunkey and South Anna, we shall probably have to move to the left to-morrow.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I was attacked by Longstreet's men about 6 o'clock. I have repulsed them. The fight is, however, still going, but I have no doubt we shall hold our own.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

In my haste to send you some word during the row to-night I said "Longstreet's men," I should have said "Wilcox's men." I do not know if more attacked us. Part of my extreme right was just going into position when the enemy advanced, and receiving a considerable fire, broke, but without much loss. I had to drive them back with the artillery, which made so much noise. We have taken some

prisoners and they reported the whole of Lee's army about, which made every part of the line feel nervous. I believe, however, from examination, that the prisoners meant only that the whole army was south of the river. Some of the prisoners said they thought we were only cavalry. I will have my position quite secure by morning and everything in order.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 23, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

We captured quite a number of prisoners. It will require daylight before I can tell how much we or the enemy suffered. We captured Colonel Brown, commanding McGowan's brigade, and the adjutant-general of Thomas' brigade.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.

P. S.—I inclose an order* showing they are putting everything in the ranks.

G. K. WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 23, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: There is an island in front of me between me and the river made by a small creek which I at first mistook for the river. On this island the enemy had a redoubt, built some five months since, and rifle-pits in connection. Behind this redoubt the bridge leads across the river, and on their side of the river there are five or six redoubts also said to have been built some months since; these command the island. This evening late two brigades of my troops carried the redoubt and rifle-pits on the island under a galling and continued musketry and artillery fire, and swept the enemy from the island, taking a number of prisoners. I now hold the head of the bridge and am intrenching. I hope to carry the other end of the bridge to-night. I do not think, however, that this is a favorable point for crossing the troops, as the enemy's redoubts before spoken of command the island or peninsula.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 23, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I congratulate you and your gallant corps for the handsome manner in which you repulsed the enemy's attack. I have directed Gen-

*Not found.

eral Wright to have his corps across by daylight to support you. Hancock is ordered to force a passage at daylight with his corps and Burnside's. Hancock reports driving the enemy across the river and securing the bridge and passage. If you have an opportunity with your own corps and Wright's to attack to advantage, do so.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864.

Generals Crawford and Cutler will begin to move with the batteries now with them at 5 a. m., General Cutler taking the road south from Harris' Store, and General Crawford following the Telegraph road. General Crawford will come back on the main road he has left. On reaching the junction of these two roads General Cutler will take the lead if the route will not admit of both. General Griffin, with the remainder of the batteries, will follow General Crawford. The engineers, with the troops and the pontoon train, will follow General Griffin. The wagon train will follow the engineer train. Colonel Kitching's command will act as flank guard to the train. The Maryland Brigade will bring up the rear as rear guard. The cavalry, under Colonel Pope, will precede General Crawford on the Telegraph road, Colonel Pope starting at 4.30 a. m., and will keep well in advance of the column, keeping the road as near to the east of Hawkins' Creek as can be found. Commanders of divisions and independent detachments and brigades will have reveille sufficiently early to allow their commands to take their places in the command assigned them, and be careful to prevent straggling. The usual music calls may be had.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

I intend to move your division this afternoon—I think out on the road along the railroad opposite your right. I have not yet fully determined which road to take, but will let you know as soon as I do. I give you this preliminary notice that you will have to move. It is by orders from headquarters preparatory to an advance tomorrow. General Meade's headquarters have moved up here, and I am getting all our trains across.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 23, 1864—9 p. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: A report reaches me from General Bartlett that Breckinridge has just come up to re-enforce, and is now on the railroad.

Prisoner says that a heavy force attacked us to-day. Colonel Brown, Fourteenth South Carolina, says Norwood belongs to Thomas' brigade. I am anxious for tools.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 23, 1864.

This division will be ready to move at 5 o'clock this morning, in the following order: First, Second Brigade; second, battery; third, First Brigade; fourth, two batteries; fifth, Third Brigade. Reveille will be sounded at 4 o'clock. The usual music calls may be had.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

C. B. MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—1 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

Bring your division back to the church, and take the road to where General Griffin is. If the Second Corps is moving in the road, you can leave your batteries where they are and come through the edge of wood, keeping to the left of them.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—1 p. m.

General CUTLER:

Bring your division, after General Crawford's, back to the church and take the road to the left. If the Second Corps occupy the road, you can leave your batteries where they are and keep along the edge of the woods. Leave word with the brigade you detached to rejoin you when General Hancock relieves it. Pick up your detachment at the church as you come along.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 23, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: The enemy opened a battery toward night just opposite my left flank, and which will enfilade my line. I am intrenching; but it is very necessary to send the brigade which we sent to the right back again, or the line designated cannot be established. Opposite my left, where the enemy opened his first battery, he advanced a line of skirmishers toward sundown. The rations of the men are

out, and I desire to know when they can be obtained. The officer will designate where I am. I beg that directions be sent to the battery officers in regard to their fire. Colonel Hardin was knocked from his horse and hurt, and my skirmish line on the left had to retire, as the shells of our own batteries burst over them.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 23, 1864.

General CRAWFORD:

I have directed your brigade to be sent to you as soon as I can hear where it is. I have plenty of re-enforcements for daybreak. The batteries will be cautioned. Intrenching tools will come up as soon as General Wright clears the road of his troops, and so will rations. I wish you would be sure and send in your prisoners to me. I send you one regiment of Cutler's brigade.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I sent a reconnaissance of cavalry and infantry this morning on the road from Thornburg to Chilesburg. It has not yet been heard from, but I am moving down the Telegraph road on the route followed by Fifth Corps yesterday. I have not yet been able to get hold of our supplies, though I have had orderlies after them and the orders have reached the commissaries. If anything can be done by you in the way of directing the trains taken to join me I shall be obliged. The orderly taking this is in search of the train, with instructions to the corps commissary. From the orders received last night, I at first assumed I was not to move till the result of reconnaissance was known, but, as there was some uncertainty in regard to the intention of the order, I am moving, as before stated, without waiting. This will probably bring me up against Warren very soon.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The head of my column is at Allen's, about a mile beyond Dr. Flippo's, where I have brought up against Fifth Corps, and where I find my supplies. I am doubling up and issuing, and as fast as issues are made will move on. Ewell and Longstreet both reported to have passed here on Saturday evening and yesterday. Road filled by them; Longstreet behind. Warren's corps came up

about half an hour after rear guard had passed. The first of these troops are said to have gone to Chesterfield ; the last to Mount Carmel Church, on Telegraph road, 1 mile this side of river. Hampton dined at Welch's, near Madison's Ordinary, on Saturday. I have sent forward to learn more of the roads and which one Warren takes, and shall follow the one on his right if it runs this side of Hawkins' Creek. If it does not, I shall follow Warren unless otherwise ordered. I have not been able to learn from citizens and negroes, so far, of any such creek as Hawkins'.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864—7 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

SIR : General Warren expressly desiring it, and on account of the heavy firing, I am bringing my corps to the vicinity of the crossing. One division will be formed parallel to the river, the other making an angle facing nearly west to protect the flank. The third to be left with trains according to original design.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 23, 1864.

The corps will move at once to the forks of the road, where one branch leads to Beaver Dam Station and the other to Jericho Bridge, thence south by roads reaching the [North] Anna, as near to and east of Hawkins' Creek as they can be found. The order of march will be : First, Second Division ; second, First Division ; third, Third Division. The trains and artillery will move in parallel columns with the infantry, which will march on the right-hand side of the road. One battery will report to Brigadier-General Ricketts, who will detail a rear guard to march in rear of the entire column, covering the trains and arresting stragglers. Major Forsyth's cavalry will cover the right and rear.

By command of Major-General Wright :

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 23, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

The lieutenant-general commanding desires you to follow General Hancock with your corps. The bearer will show you the road.

Very respectfully,

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Plain View, May 23, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

General Willcox's division is in position at Ox Ford, with pickets connecting with General Hancock. We have not yet been able to connect with the pickets of General Warren. General Crittenden's division is in the rear of General Willcox, and General Potter's division, which came in a few moments ago, is placed on the right hand side of the Telegraph road, in the rear of General Crittenden. My headquarters are immediately on the right of General Potter's division; it can be found by coming down the Telegraph road about a quarter of a mile this side of Carmel Church, at the end of the woods, then across the open space to the right about 600 or 700 yards, to the only house in sight.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near North Anna, May 23, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Hold your corps as a reserve to re-enforce the Second Corps (which is to force a crossing of the Anna at daylight), or to effect a crossing at Ox Ford, as may be deemed most advisable. General Hancock is directed to effect the crossing at New Bridge, and has been authorized to call on you for such assistance as he may require. You will, therefore, if called on by him send all the assistance he may ask for. If your troops are not required at New Bridge get them as well in line in front of the ford and between you and the enemy as possible, and effect a crossing if you can. You had better see General Hancock or communicate with him to-night and ascertain whether you can give the best support by crossing with him or by operating over your present front. My headquarters will be moved in the morning to Mount Carmel Church.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH CORPS,
May 23, 1864—3 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Corps:

COLONEL: General Crittenden, who is asleep, desires me to report in reply to General Burnside's inquiry as to the bridge some 2 miles in our front, that the division officer of the day, in accordance with the instructions of the corps officer of the day, has posted a guard of 2 officers and 50 men over it.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. J. MILLS,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bethel Church, Va., May 23, 1864.

Commanders of brigades and batteries will have their commands in readiness to move at 6 a. m. precisely. Trains will follow in rear of the division. The Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers is detailed as a rear guard of the command. The disgraceful laxity of all officers of the division in the matter of straggling has called forth the severest animadversions at the headquarters of the army. All brigade and regimental commanders will detail a sufficient rear guard to prevent all straggling, who will use their bayonets freely, and if necessary, shoot any straggler. No person will be permitted to fall out without a written certificate of disability from a medical officer or men detailed on necessary duty. Any person caught pillaging will be summarily dealt with. The name of any officer found absent from his command without authority will be taken, and he recommended for dismissal. Commanding officers will be held responsible for the strict enforcement of this order, which will be read at the head of each regiment and battery before starting. The division officer of the day, and the commander of the regiment detailed as a rear guard will report at these headquarters for instructions at 6 a. m.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Bethel, Va., May 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: All organized troops not of your command, or specially assigned to escort trains by General Meade, you will please send forward to report to General Meade without delay. It is of the greatest importance to get to the front every available man possible. Your command will be sufficient guard for trains.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 23, 1864—3 p. m.

Major KERWIN, *Commanding Cavalry:*

You will move with your command without delay to Bethel Church and patrol the roads from that point to Moncure's house, and from Bethel Church to Milford. Moncure's house is 1½ miles from Chesterfield.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEW BETHEL, VA., *May 23, 1864—5 p. m.*

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE, *Comdg., Fredericksburg, Va.:*

The work on railroad will cease, and all guards for railroad and telegraph drawn in. The six batteries Reserve Artillery, if convenient,

send to Washington; otherwise send them across with the garrison to Port Royal. The garrison from Belle Plain may march direct from there to Port Royal, with the other supplies. Port Royal must be garrisoned and made our base with the least possible delay. Act in the matter with the greatest dispatch.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Moncure's House, Va., May 23, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding, &c., Fredericksburg, Va.:

GENERAL: Inclosed please find communication from Asst. Surg. Ed. D. W. Breneman, relating to our wounded on the Wilderness battlefield, and the treatment of officers by guerrillas, who attempt to look after their welfare. You will send a sufficient number of wagons and ambulances, with a competent force of infantry, and cavalry, and artillery, to drive away any force of the enemy that may be found in the neighborhood of the hospitals at that place, and remove all our wounded men from there to Fredericksburg. If necessary you can order for this purpose some of the re-enforcements coming forward, but it is thought you have force enough without this. Attend to this at once.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure.]

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., *May 22, 1864—11.30 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. JOHN A. RAWLINS, U. S. Volunteers,
Chief of Staff to Lieutenant-General Grant, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I again proceeded to the Confederate lines on the plank road, at a point near Parker's Store, this morning, with a flag of truce, and two unarmed orderlies, for the purpose of learning the condition of our wounded and the number in their hands, and was met by Capt. James C. Borden, Company H, First North Carolina Cavalry, commanding the pickets, by whom I was courteously received, and the desired information obtained. Supplies were represented by a Confederate surgeon, who accompanied the captain, as becoming scarce, but the patients comfortable and well treated. I agreed to furnish supplies to-morrow, while a communication from your headquarters, under date of 18th instant, "To the officer commanding the Confederate forces at the Old Wilderness," was transferred to be forwarded to General Lee.

On my return, with the flag of truce flying, and when in the neighborhood of Old Wilderness Tavern, on the turnpike, I was met and halted by 6 men, dressed in Confederate uniform, fully armed, who represented themselves as an "independent command of scouts" acknowledging no authority. The flag of truce was disregarded, my horse taken from me, person fully searched, official and private

papers and other articles removed, and after much insult and delay I was permitted to return to this point without further molestation. Some of the official papers were returned. I deem it unquestionably unsafe to forward supplies under existing circumstances, and in consultation with Colonel Schriver, inspector-general, military governor, and Surg. Edward B. Dalton, U. S. Volunteers, medical director, they coincided. As I found these independent bands in force between our lines and Wilderness Tavern bent on plunder of whatever description, as one of the six met informed me, an armed escort will subject the train to certain capture, while an unarmed one will be useless to repel any attack that may be made by guerrillas before it could reach the enemy's picket-line. I hasten to represent these matters fully and properly, and await instructions from your headquarters.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. D. W. BRENEMAN,
Asst. Surg., U. S. Army., Flag of Truce Officer.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 23, 1864—2 p. m.
(Received 2.45 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I have six batteries of Reserve Artillery here with their horses, most of the latter in a bad condition, ordered here by General Burnside. Shall I send them to Washington or take them to Port Royal? I am making every exertion to get away from here and Fredericksburg. Hope to do so by to-morrow, and abandon both places for Port Royal.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 23, 1864—5.28 p. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Belle Plain:

Reserve Artillery and broken-down artillery sent back from army will be sent here to General Howe. Do not withdraw your forces till all public property at Fredericksburg, Belle Plain, and railroad is secured and embarked. Leave nothing to be plundered or destroyed by the enemy, unless you have different orders from General Grant.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BELLE PLAIN, *May* 23, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 8.50 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

General Grant's telegram of to-day, 5 p. m., contains similar instructions as yours of same date as to disposition of property and removal of troops hence to Port Royal. The quartermaster tells me

that the Reserve Artillery can be better shipped from Port Royal for want of transportation here. A portion of it may be wanted for the protection of that depot. General Grant directs that I withdraw all guards. If I do so the telegraph between Pope's Point and Port Royal will be cut in less than six hours after the troops leave the north side of the Rappahannock. This being the only line of telegraph between the army and Washington, I will leave a strong guard of infantry and cavalry to protect it. This will also guard the river from Port Royal to its mouth. Everything will be in readiness to abandon Belle Plain to-morrow.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, May 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. C. C. AUGUR,
Washington, D. C.:

After abandoning this post troops will march overland to Port Royal.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., *May 23, 1864.*

Captain ORR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dr. Dalton, medical director here, informs me that the transports, with wounded, will leave here in all probability by 3 o'clock; one and perhaps two may start before that time. The medical director has received instructions from the Surgeon-General to remove all the wounded by water. Therefore, at present, the cars cannot be used for that purpose. The Surgeon-General has been asked to revise.

E. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General, Commanding.

MAY 23, 1864.

General AUGUR:

The Secretary thinks you had better go to Belle Plain to-night and see that all public property at that place, Fredericksburg, and Aquia railroad is removed before the troops are withdrawn, so that nothing of value be left to be plundered by the enemy's guerrillas. I have directed General Abercrombie to send to General Howe the Reserve Artillery and artillery horses sent back from the army.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 23, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER,
Fredericksburg:

The cars are ready now to take the sick and wounded, such as could be transported, to Aquia Creek, by way of the Aquia Creek and Fredericksburg Railroad, but if the barges are at Fredericksburg, and

capable of taking all the sick or wounded, they can go down by water in preference, otherwise let them go down to Aquia, where boats are in waiting to transport them to Washington. As soon as I can get the Government property and prisoners from here I will take up the line of march. If you have any empty wagons send them down here for supplies. Advise me immediately of the fact by telegraph or messenger, so that the commissary can remain to load them, otherwise the supplies will go to Port Royal by boat.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 23, 1864—12 m.

Col. E. SCHRIVER, *Fredericksburg:*

The following communication was received at these headquarters this a. m.:

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
New Bethel Church, Va., May 22, 1864—7 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding:

The road from Bowling Green to Fredericksburg is now uncovered, and it will not be safe for anything to pass over it without escort. You will, therefore, permit nothing to come forward from Fredericksburg, unless when troops are passing to give the necessary protection.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

General Lockwood will be with you this day with a brigade. You can consult with him if it is necessary to detain a portion for your post.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 23, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Col. E. SCHRIVER, *Fredericksburg, Va.:*

A train of fifty wagons started this a. m., guarded by Colonel Talley's regiment, 500 men. General Lockwood, with about 1,700 men, is en route to Fredericksburg. Orders from army headquarters compel me to stop work on Aquia railroad and ship the rolling-stock to Washington. Send the ammunition to Port Royal by water. I will probably march with the troops by 12 noon to-morrow. Batteries will probably march with the troops. Fifteen thousand rations started at 1 p. m. to-day via Aquia railroad.

J. J ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 23, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER,
Fredericksburg:

Are there any wagons on the road for this place? Answer.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *May* 23, 1864—2.40 p. m.

General BUTLER:

Wilson is absent. I answer for him that Gillmore's nomination is still pending before the Senate.

CHAS. SUMNER.

MAY 23, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brigadier-Generals MEIGS and BARNARD,
Via Fort Monroe:

General Grant has moved south to Milford Station and changed his base of supplies to Port Royal. He says Lee has been re-enforced by Pickett's division and other troops from Richmond, and that General Butler's force is not detaining 10,000 of the enemy. Your report anxiously looked for. Water transportation for troops to the Rappahannock should be prepared.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA., *May* 23, 1864.
(Via Jamestown Island and Fort Monroe, Va.
Received 12.45 p. m. 24th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

We arrived here Sunday evening, too late to examine the position, and so ascended in the night to Trent's Reach to communicate with Admiral Lee. He has asked for more gun-boats and says the navy cannot remain above Deep Bottom and Turkey Bend if a determined effort is made by rebels to occupy the shore at those points and cut off supply of coal. He wishes the army to hold positions on the north bank of the James at one or both those points. If reconnaissance shows this practicable we should recommend it, but if it is not done the iron-clads could be supplied by hauling coal from the Appomattox, and the wooden gun-boats be withdrawn.

General Butler thinks he has evidence that eleven brigades of the enemy are detained in front of him and estimated to number from 25,000 to 30,000. Has captured prisoners from ten brigades within the last four days. On Friday evening captured General W. S. Walker; has his pocket-book with valuable memoranda showing his brigade to number 4,100 men. Petersburg paper of 21st says that three brigades attacked our pickets on Friday with loss of 600 men. D. H. Hill commanded, and Beauregard was present. A deserter from Ransom's division came in to-day; was at Plymouth and battles near this place; says they have orders to hold the works they have lately constructed in front of us to the last extremity, but does not think they mean to attack. General Pickett went north about May 9, under a cloud for allowing himself to be surprised in this position. General Butler is positive that within the last four days divisions of Hoke, Ransom, Bushrod Johnson, and Whiting have been before him. We think it possible, however, that very recently, and since our force has been entirely on the defensive, rebel troops have gone to Lee.

The brigades mentioned by General Butler, as before him, are Gracie's, Corse's, Clingman's, Hoke's, Walker's, Hunton's, Ransom's, Barton's, Hagood's, Kemper's, Martin's. Wise is here also. General Butler's position is strong; can be defended, when works are complete, with 10,000 men, leaving 20,000 free to operate. We think it already strong, and think if General Grant is engaged in decisive operations that General Butler should not remain on the defensive. We think that this force should not be diminished, and that a skillful use of it will aid General Grant more than the numbers which might be drawn from here. Supplies of all kinds are abundant; the troops in good spirits. General Weitzel has just been made chief engineer to General Butler and advises and co-operates heartily. We have not yet been able fully to post ourselves as to the relations of the corps commanders but think the report of want of harmony may be exaggerated, at least so far as General Smith is concerned. We would prefer taking another occasion to speak on this subject. Will remain here to-morrow continuing our investigations and awaiting further orders. If it be desired to transfer troops to General Grant the transportation is in the Potomac and James. General Rucker and Colonel Biggs can send it here on being notified.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.
J. G. BARNARD,
Brigadier-General and Chief Engineer.

BERMUDA, *May* 23, 1864.

Colonel FULLER,
Chief Quartermaster:

Your dispatch about boats received. I send the Johnson to Point of Rocks at once for General Meigs and horses. Will send another steamer to be there at 2 p. m.

GEO. S. DODGE,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 23, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE:

Send immediately an approximate report of the effective strength of your command.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *May* 23, 1864.

Discourtesy, it is hoped, was not intended by Major Davis in the style and form of the above order. The report is sent under the supposition it was not, and in the belief that General Butler wants it.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S, *May* 23, 1864.

Major DAVIS:

The tri-monthly return of the Tenth Corps, due on the 20th, will be sent in to-day. The delay was in consequence of division returns having to be returned for correction of errors traceable to the almost incessant labor to which officers and men have been subjected recently by the frequent movements of the command.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S, *May* 23, 1864—9.55 p. m.

General BUTLER:

Major Trumbull, First Connecticut Artillery, reports that from a lookout on tree on our line, no guns can be seen on the battery on our left which opened on us at 11 to-day, neither are there any troops but pickets to be seen—no tents. No work going on as far along their line as the open space in our front extends.

GILLMORE,
General.

GILLMORE'S, *May* 23, 1864—10.04 p. m.

General BUTLER:

I would like to make a reconnaissance to-night if you have no objections.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 23, 1864—12.30 a. m.

Captain SEALY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in addition to the details received by me to-night at 6 o'clock, there are at work on the line of the intrenchments about 300 or 400 men. The commanding officers assure me that the men drop down in their tracks, and cannot work any more.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SERRELL,
Colonel of Engineers, New York Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Hatcher's, Va., May 23, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Generals TERRY and AMES:

It is suspected that the enemy is diminishing his force. You will cautiously shove out your pickets exactly at 11 o'clock this p. m., until you develop his picket-line.

By order of Major-General Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, May 23, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: In pursuance with instructions received from General Gillmore to-night, the picket-line of this division was ordered to move forward until it should develop the enemy. The line advanced a short distance, and drawing the fire of the enemy, after a few minutes, retired to its original position. This attempt not being well followed up by the whole line, it was ordered to advance again, which it did, drawing a heavier fire from the enemy than before. Having ascertained that the force was sufficient to check our line, I ordered the firing to cease, and the line to be occupied as before.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Ware Bottom Church, Va., May 23, 1864.

Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: An officer on picket night before last reports that the enemy is putting up heavy works behind the woods in front of Battery No. 3; that he heard them spiking down platforms, &c., leading him to believe that mortars are being put into position. He also reports the sawing down of trees and the erection of four or five different batteries. He says he counted some ten distinct regimental bands of music (or field music) near and others more distant.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 23, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I send you 4 officers who were on picket duty night before last, and who failed to make their men stand to their posts and discharge their duties. The men report that the order to retreat was given. A part of the line, with a few officers, remained on the original line all the time. Lieut. F. H. Davis, Fourth New Hampshire Volunteers, came inside the intrenchments with 16 men. Lieut. D. Gile, Fourth New Hampshire Volunteers, came back to the intrenchments, was placed under arrest by Colonel Howell (so Colonel Howell reports), but afterward made his escape and returned to the picket-line. Captains Badger and Burleigh, of the same regiment, are reported as having given the order to retreat. I send them to you. I will state, for the information of the major-general commanding, that this was the second night this picket had been on. When a new detail was made the brigade commander was of the opinion that the picket then on was better able to perform the duties

than any men in camp, since those in camp had been working during the day and previous night on the intrenchments, and were much fatigued. I am of the opinion that the above circumstance was no justification for cowardice.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—Lieutenant Gillpatrick, who was on picket at this time, and who stood his ground, reports that he remonstrated with Captain Badger in reference to the latter's disposition of officers and men on the picket-line, and that there was no necessity for the order to fall back.

Yours, &c.,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 23, 1864—10 p. m.

General SMITH:

Please report to me any information you have received from the scouts you sent out or other sources as to the position of the enemy. General Gillmore, at his own request, is about to make a reconnaissance to-night in front of his line. Perhaps you might feel the enemy on the road to the left at the same time.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SMITH'S,
May 23, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General BUTLER:

Four of 7 scouts have returned. Two could not pass General Gillmore's lines on my pass. The other 2 report that they reached the railroad between the Junction and the burnt mill, and that it is not yet repaired, but that parties were working on it from both directions. One scout reports a field-work being thrown up on the hill overlooking the burnt mill, but no works seen on the hills near the Junction. The men were both ordered to report to you in the morning, and I had intended to send this information to you before this. I see no practicable good and much chance of ambuscade and confusion to result from a night reconnaissance; in addition to that I should be almost certain in the darkness to leave dead and wounded on the field. I shall, therefore, make no demonstration unless under an order.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

MAY 23, 1864.

General WEITZEL:

Will you please ascertain the name of the officer of the picket that connected with the colored vedettes on our extreme right on the 16th instant. It is very important to know his name, that I may

get from him his report that he made to General Heckman about the massing of troops during the night preceding, and also to attest to the attack on the force in the building on our right.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 23, 1864.

Col. H. BIGGS:

For God's sake get my regiment mounted; it is dismounted for no offense.

W. HOWARD KING,
Surgeon Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 23, 1864.

Col. H. BIGGS:

Have the general to request that Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry, to which I am attached, be ordered to your command. Col. W. H. Boyd commands. For his character refer to General W. F. Smith.

W. HOWARD KING,
Surgeon Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
North Anna, May 24, 1864—8 a. m. (Received 5.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The enemy have fallen back from North Anna; we are in pursuit. Negroes who have come in state that Lee is falling back to Richmond. If this is the case, Butler's forces will all be wanted where they are. Notify him to hold Smith in readiness to be moved, but to await further orders. I will probably know to-day if the enemy intends standing behind South Anna.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 24, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

When I received your telegram of 8 a. m. yesterday,* I had prepared orders to General Smith to join you with 20,000 men. General Butler is now ordered to hold him in readiness to move. I wish everything was away from the south side of the James and with you. It would be much better. I do not like these divided commands, with the enemy intervening. I would rather use them altogether under your own eye.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

* Reference is probably to Grant's dispatch of 8 p. m. 22d, received by Halleck, 8 a. m. 23d. See p. 77.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: I find Warren holds down to Quarles' Mills and Ford, which is just above Burnside. I have directed Warren to push Crawford's division down the river beyond Quarles' Mills till he meets some enemy, and uncovering Ox Ford if possible. It seems to me Burnside might send up to Quarles' Mills and cross a few there. Crawford is directed to communicate with Burnside as he goes down. Will you inform Burnside of this.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
May 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit to you the following report of the number of wounded of the Army of the Potomac during the present campaign, May 5 to May 22, 1864:

Number of wounded sent to Washington via Belle Plain	15,148
Number of wounded remaining in Fredericksburg May 23	5,830
Number of wounded in Wilderness (about)	600
Total	21,578
Number of officers	851
Number of enlisted men	20,727
Total	21,578
Number of wounded in—	
Second Corps	8,840
Fifth Corps	6,301
Sixth Corps	5,787
Cavalry Corps	650
Total	21,578

To the above total must be added the number of wounded of the Cavalry Corps during the recent expedition, which number is not yet known at this office. The number of wounded in the Ninth Corps, so far as it can be estimated from the reports received from the Fredericksburg hospitals, is about 3,500.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THS. A. McPARLIN,
Surgeon, U. S. Army, Medical Director.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864.

The wounded now with this army will be sent to Port Royal under the direction of the chief quartermaster and medical director. As far as practicable, empty wagons will be used for the purpose. Sur-

geon Phelps, volunteer service, is placed in the immediate charge of the wounded, and will be governed by such special instructions as he may receive from the medical director. The trains from the several corps will rendezvous at the general supply train, now in the vicinity of Milford Station. Corps commanders will detail such medical officers and attendants, and provide such medical supplies as may be required by their medical directors, and they will also furnish three days' rations for their wounded. The rations will be cooked if possible.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 143. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *May* 24, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. The empty wagons about to be sent to Port Royal will be loaded at that place with their proper proportion of subsistence stores, under such instructions as may be given by the chief commissary of this army. An officer of the subsistence department from each corps will accompany the empty wagons.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—12.20 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your dispatch by Captain Cadwalader is received. I do not, with my present information, consider it practicable to cross here in force successfully, if the enemy hold their line in force. Captain Mackenzie, who accompanies Captain Cadwalader, can give you a full account of their works. General Birney now holds the bridge entire—Taylor's Bridge, on Telegraph road—and is building a bridge-head on the other side. The approaches to the enemy's position from the bridge are entirely under the fire of the works of the enemy. The river is fordable, though the banks are steep and impracticable. I can hold the line with a comparatively small force, and think it would be better to send most of the corps to a point where a crossing has been effected, promising better results. The railroad bridge has been fired, I am told, by the enemy, who hold one end, while I hold the other. It is about 400 feet long. The work General Birney took was surrounded by a moat about 8 feet wide.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May [24], 1864—5 a. m.

[General WILLIAMS ? :]

GENERAL: The enemy appear to hold the banks of the river with a strong skirmish force of sharpshooters. It may be a matter of considerable time and labor to get this corps across the river, as it is a serious obstacle, from the depth of the stream, the nature of its banks, and the wooded character of the country. General Crawford might perhaps clear the bank of the river (as he is on the same side) by moving along the bank with his skirmish line. A close examination of the river shows the enemy's line of battle to our right as far as we have extended in that direction. I shall continue to extend to the right until I find, if practicable, where their left is. If I cross it will probably [be] toward old Court-House. I will communicate further with you as soon as I have completed the examination to the right. I think it doubtful if the crossing by the road can be forced, as the road runs parallel and close to the river for some hundred yards.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—6.30 a. m.

[General S. WILLIAMS ? :]

GENERAL: I send you a statement of two negroes who crossed the river on a log at the railroad bridge at 11 p. m. yesterday. I send the negroes to your headquarters, as they appear to be willing to give information. I do not know the value of it. The railroad bridge was set on fire yesterday evening. They had prepared for burning before we arrived here. It was burned, although we held this end of it. I had deemed it totally impracticable to cross at the railroad bridge yesterday evening, as the artillery and infantry of the enemy protected it completely. Although the enemy have two guns this morning firing from my right at my line on the island, I do not believe they are in strong force. I will soon ascertain. They have some infantry, however, and their sharpshooters are at work.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

Negro says: Left other side of river at 11 p. m. last night. The enemy—Gordon's division—were encamped about 1½ miles from the railroad bridge and were intrenching, but received marching orders about 10 p. m. and ceased working at their rifle-pits and marched off in the direction of Hanover Junction. Does not know whether the enemy have left redoubts opposite General Birney's front or not. It is 2½ miles from the railroad bridge to Hanover Junction. Says that his master, Major Doswell, has gone to Richmond, by the advice of General Gordon, who told Major Doswell that the Union army would cross to-day, and that he (Gordon) was going to march to Richmond at once. Says that the enemy have long wagon trains around Hanover Junction, and that they are fighting to protect them.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully referred.

I have seen the negroes, and think from what they say the enemy has fallen back beyond the South Anna. There are no pickets below the railroad bridge. Warren was advancing his skirmish line when last heard from without opposition. There are a few guns yet in front of Hancock and Burnside. The negroes say there is a good ford (Quarles') between Warren and Burnside. I have sent the negro with an officer to Burnside to give him this information, and suggesting his crossing at this ford if opposed at Ox Ford. I shall go from here to Warren's trains. Just came from Hancock. Sheridan reports this side of the Pamunkey, near Dunkirk. The officer says he is out of forage and horses tired. Had he not better come to the train and feed and rest?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 24, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: The enemy have a skirmish line in the edge of woods back of the river. Their earth-works do not appear to be occupied unless by a very few men. I cannot see any. General Birney's skirmish line is now advancing, and I suppose twenty minutes or half an hour will develop the matter. I think within that time General Birney will occupy the redoubt nearest his line. General Burnside has not opened on the battery in his front, which fires at General Birney's line.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 9.15 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I send you a note from General Gibbon. General Birney is pushing his skirmish line at the same time. I shall very soon be able to tell whether we can get into their works. They show no force except sharpshooters in their works, but there is a skirmish line in the edge of the woods behind.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 24, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: I have skirmishers across, and they are now advancing; one or two shots have been fired. From all appearances, I have nothing in my front but a few scattering men. I have seen them retiring in squads of five or six. The river is not fordable anywhere

in this vicinity, and the banks are steep and miry. I have built a rough bridge by felling trees, and we command the other bank, so that we can throw a bridge at any practicable point in my front.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

All the firing you hear down this way is from General Birney's men, though I do not know what it is at, and hear no reply.

J. G.

[Indorsement.]

My firing is at the enemy, and is replied to. I am advancing on the redoubt in my front.

D. B. B.
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 24, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Gibbon's skirmishers are in the enemy's works on the left of the railroad, without much opposition. I shall at once press troops forward to occupy the works, if possible, so as to be ready to move on.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

Please give me any orders you may have.
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—9.15 a. m. (Received 9.45 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Our troops have got possession of the enemy's first earth-work about the crest, and General Mott's brigade is now moving into it to hold it. The enemy have four guns at work. I don't know whether it is horse artillery or not. They fire on my line from the front of General Burnside, but I have requested him, if possible, to prevent it.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 24, 1864—10.40 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have just notified General Burnside that I would send a brigade up the river to take two guns that are annoying me,

and to clear his front, so that he may cross all his force. I am crossing my troops rapidly, and to facilitate the matter am throwing a pontoon bridge by the railroad. At present, the enemy have in Birney's front a line of works with the right well thrown back. They showed six guns just now, which we silenced.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I am directed by Major-General Meade to say that he has ordered a division of the Fifth Corps to move down the river and open the ford in front of the Ninth Corps, so that that corps can cross at once and take its place in the line.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[MAY 24, 1864.]

Colonel MILES:

You need not advance to the point indicated. You may for the present hold a position beyond the picket-lines and await developments, protecting well your left flank. I fear you will run into the division of the Fifth Corps. Send this to General Barlow, who will please return it to me.

Respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—11.05 a. m. (Received 12.55 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: There is a good deal of picket-firing on my front, nearer to my right, where my skirmishers press them. I don't know that it indicates anything of importance. On the left General Gibbon advanced his skirmishers 1½ miles beyond the railroad, when a line of skirmishers from a rifle-pit fired a volley, and checked them. Our troops are nearly all across. The artillery is crossing. The crossing at my permanent bridge is not very safe until that battery in front of General Burnside is silenced, as all my troops crossing at that bridge are fired on, though in each case my guns silence them after a time. I have two pontoon bridges established just below the railroad. I have just returned from the front. We are making everything as secure as possible.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 24, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: My brigade has just advanced up the river, but I have directed it to be stopped, as it may prevent the Fifth Corps division and it firing into each other.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

MAY 24, 1864—1.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs that when you have crossed the river and advanced so far as to admit of your trains following, that you cross them, and be prepared to move early to-morrow morning. The route you will take passes through the Junction, then along the east side of the Fredericksburg railroad, until after crossing Little River and entering a road that crosses the South Anna at South Anna bridge, not far from the crossing of the Virginia Central Railroad; where the route just designated crosses Little River, the South Anna approaches the former within three-fourths of a mile. The route just indicated may be modified so that you will cross the South Anna just east of the crossing of the Fredericksburg road. General Burnside will take the route from Ox Ford to Anderson's Tavern, thence along the Central railroad to the point where your route intersects it, and then south on the west side of the Fredericksburg railroad through Taylorsville Station, crossing the South Anna at Ellett's Mill, west of the Fredericksburg railroad crossing.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I send a dispatch just received from General Gibbon, who is on my left (on the left of the railroad). The prisoners taken report Ewell's corps in our front. Another man, who came in on the right of my line, belongs to a division of Longstreet's corps. Some time ago it was reported to me that in front of my line could be seen some wagons passing to the right. I have sent out a command in that direction the distance of more than a mile. My skirmishers there are pretty hotly engaged. The enemy seem to have a line of works there—perhaps nothing more than rifle-pits—with a line of battle in it; probably a continuation of the line that Colonel Smyth struck. I shall direct General Barlow to attack it, to see what is there.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 24, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: Colonel Smyth has just charged, and taken possession of a line of the enemy's breast-works, and captured several prisoners.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

Prisoners report Ewell's corps in our front.

J. G.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 24, 1864—5.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I have just taken a prisoner from Field's division. He was on the skirmish line; says the line of battle was about 250 yards behind. That the enemy are in strong force is probable, as we meet them in works all along our front some distance out. I shall make an advance of a division in a few minutes, and will support it, if necessary.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Col. J. C. TIDBALL,
Chief of Artillery:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you take your batteries across the river, except such as may be in useful positions; also that such as you do not at present place in position you will screen behind the crest. The general also desires to see you.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 24, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The enemy are making a strong attack down the railroad, particularly on Gibbon. Barlow is now going in on his right. It looks to me as if the enemy had a similar line to that on the Po, with the salient resting opposite to Burnside, and their right, so far as we are concerned, thrown back toward Hanover Junction.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: Our lines have been materially advanced, developing the enemy's line, which is intrenched, as usual. I have ordered my trains to cross over behind my lines. General Burnside's line is now connecting on my right, but I am going to advance my right, as my left is well forward, and I have no doubt General Burnside will advance at the same time. My headquarters will be at the Chandler house, on the Telegraph road, at the position we assaulted yesterday.

Very respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

P. S.—I should like my left rear protected by some cavalry, as there are some points in that direction which command it.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864—9.50 p. m. (Received 1.45 a. m. 25th.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed to acknowledge your dispatch of 7.30 p. m. The commanding general wishes you to advance as much as you can with security to yourself, so as to envelop as much as possible of the enemy's line, and thus develop his position. Your right will connect with General Burnside. The general desires that you will watch carefully your left flank and hold some troops in readiness to strengthen it, should it be seriously threatened. The troops on our right will be thrown forward so as to develop the left of the enemy's line. General Torbert has been instructed to send you a small detachment of good cavalry to protect your left rear, as requested.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—9.20 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: My right extends to a house a short distance to the right of the Telegraph road. If you will extend thence to the river, the line will be complete. I have notified General Potter to that effect. I have thrown my right forward while my left is advanced a mile. My line is nearly parallel to the enemy's line of works. I did extend to the river, but General Potter relieved my line from the Telegraph road; but one division is not sufficient.

Very respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 9.20 is just received. I intended to have sent General Willcox across the river this evening, but just at dark I learned of quite a serious repulse of a portion of General Crittenden's force, that had crossed the river at the upper ford to join General Crawford. This force attempted to come down on the opposite side to connect with General Potter. They got close down to the enemy's works and the battery, when they were met by an overwhelming force and driven back with a loss of some 600 killed, wounded, and missing. As it now stands, Generals Crittenden and Crawford are cut off from both you and Warren, and also from this side of the river, except by a deep rocky ford.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The latest information I have leads me to believe that a large force, if not the whole of Lee's army, is in our front. I have advanced my lines considerably to-day, especially on the left, which rests near Doswell's house. General Gibbon had quite an engagement to maintain the position. My left rests nearly on the river, which bends considerably to the right. I proposed to attack to-night, but the line I advanced developed such a strong position that the division commander (Barlow), doubtful of his ability to carry it, and General Gibbon, desired assistance at the same time. I am intrenching my advanced position, which is in close proximity to their intrenched line. General Burnside ought to hold from my right to the river to cover the bridge. My right extends, say, 300 yards west of the Telegraph road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

[Indorsement.]

I have directed General Burnside to retain Willcox where he is (on north side of the river, covering Ox Ford) for the night, and to get his bridge over to Crittenden and Crawford. Potter's division is now with Hancock, and he can direct him as he may deem best.

U. S. GRANT.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that he does not expect you to do more than intrench in your present position, and hold it against the enemy. General Potter's division is under your orders, and will form your right flank. General Warren is directed

to move at 4 a. m. to-morrow and envelop the enemy's line, Crittenden's division forming his left flank. A bridge will be thrown at his left flank.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 24, 1864—12.05 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: All my infantry is across and in position with a strong skirmish line out. Some few shots are being fired. The artillery will cross as soon as the pontoon bridge is completed. I have withdrawn the pickets I had out on my left, on this side the river.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Vols., Comdg. Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—9.35 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you press your troops forward to occupy the front line of earth-works and get ready to push on at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General BIRNEY,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I wish you to send a brigade up toward the right to clear out, and if possible take those two guns that are annoying you, and to clear General Burnside's front, who seems to be unable to cross. I have notified General Burnside to that effect. If you are unable to furnish the troops send word to General Barlow, whom I have directed, if necessary, to send a brigade for that purpose. Let it be done as expeditiously as possible in order that we may be able to mass all our troops on the river without delay.

Very respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CHANDLER'S HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
May 24, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General MOTT:

Pierce with his brigade is ordered to report to you immediately. Gibbon has crossed and is coming up on your left. The division will cross immediately.

BIRNEY,
General.

CHANDLER'S HOUSE, *May* 24, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General MOTT:

Do you want a battery in that redoubt?

BIRNEY,
General.

REDOUBT, *May* 24, 1864—10.55 a. m.

General BIRNEY:

Please send a section over.

MOTT,
General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Two of General Wright's divisions are across and in reserve. My skirmishers are pushing out, and find no enemy so far. It is reported from both my flanks that they have passed the hasty breast-works built by the enemy yesterday. We are picking up prisoners. General Crawford has sent me one from Heth's division. We have them, I believe, from all the brigades of Wilcox's division. The bad approaches, and the night, the tired condition of the men, and the making of breast-works, somewhat retarded the issuing of rations, and some small portion of the command have not yet been supplied. They will be now very soon, as General Wright's troops are about out of the way now.

I shall keep feeling out till I develop the enemy's position, if he is about. I have no rations for Colonel Pope's command, and I directed him to report back with what he had here, so that he can go to the supply train and find the rest of his command. Colonel Pope exerts himself very earnestly, but his command is a very poor one. The part I sent out to watch my right flank came in without orders, and it was somewhat owing to this circumstance that the enemy got close up before we knew it, in that direction, or were fully prepared to meet it. My trust in this cavalry was then an injury to me. I have had at all times great difficulty in getting them in advance of the infantry whenever we take up a position, even when there is no enemy apparent, and though I don't wish to be finding fault I had almost as leave not have them. My escort is very good and efficient.

Respectfully, yours,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

My skirmish line has gone far out in every direction. Have possession of the wagon road beyond the railroad. Prisoners say they all fell back beyond last night from 10 to 12 o'clock. Dr. Charles J. Terrell came down the road from 2 miles this side of Beaver Dam, and rode into our lines. He says there is no enemy of ours in that

direction. He says that his family is very sick, and that he is attending to a number of patients in his neighborhood. I do not doubt his story, but having come into our lines, I do no not think I should let him go, and send him direct to you.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864—8 a. m.

General WARREN:

I send you some cavalry, reported by Torbert as reliable, to push out and feel for the enemy. Two negroes who left this morning, crossing below railroad bridge, say there were no pickets there, and that the enemy left Hanover Junction last night, taking the Richmond road. They still show a force in front of Hancock and Burnside, but impossible to tell whether it is cavalry or not. Some few pieces of artillery visible. Burnside is about attempting to cross, and thinks he will be able to do so. I send you this information for your guidance. Push out as far as you can, and send us information as soon as received.

Yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY DETACHMENT, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: General Meade wishes me to send you some cavalry, which will go in your front, and patrol to the right and left. I think you can depend on these men. General Meade did not say how long they should stay with you, so as soon as you get through with them please order them to report back to me.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 24, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

My infantry have gone well out. I directed General Crawford some time ago to push a regiment down the bank of the river to connect with Generals Burnside and Hancock. I have found no enemy yet. A few cavalry have been seen urging up stragglers. Major Roebling has been over a mile across the railroad near Noel's Station. Some good cavalry would, I think, be of much service.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 24, 1864—1 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding desires you to stretch out on a road to South Anna so as to cross that river early to-morrow morning. He desires you to send out reconnoitering parties to find a route for your corps to-morrow, avoiding the road from Anderson's Tavern to the Junction or to Taylorsville, which roads will be used by other corps. Anderson's Tavern is where the road from Ox Ford intersects the Virginia Central Railroad. General Wright is ordered to cross his trains, and be prepared to follow you to-morrow morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Have you heard anything from Crawford, and how far has he progressed? Burnside still has somebody in front of him. Hancock has crossed nearly his whole corps; his skirmishers in front exchanging shots. Griffin, on his left, advanced a mile beyond the crossing, when his skirmishers were fired upon by the enemy's skirmishers in rifle-pits. This shows that somebody is still about, and it is desirable to open Burnside's crossing.

Yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—2.45 [p. m.]

Major-General MEADE:

General Crawford has opened the ford to General Burnside without opposition. He struck the enemy's skirmishers on his right and finds breast-works there. General Crawford is along the road from Ox Ford south, but not extending to the railroad. The cavalry report they have come against the enemy's cavalry, showing a bold front, and I have heard cannon fired at them. I have sent an officer to get the exact position of the cavalry, and sent word to Crawford to develop the enemy's front to his right and connect with our cavalry if he can. The country Crawford has moved through is very difficult. Ox Ford is a bad one. General Crittenden began to cross before Major Roebling left, about 1.30 p. m.; it will take some time for him to get over. Artillery cannot use the ford. It is piney woods out a mile from the river at the ford, then the country is open. I send you a sketch* to look at; I would like to have it sent back, and then I will add more to it. I do not stop to make a copy.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—11 p. m.

Major DUANE:

I have not any report from Crawford or Russell that their pickets connect, but I learn from what I believe reliable sources that they do. Major Roebling says Quarles' Ford is about half a mile above where Crittenden is, and that the ford was reported by a signal officer who crossed it as good for artillery. You can show this to General Meade if he is up yet.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you move your corps at 4 a. m. to-morrow, and take position enveloping the enemy's line. You will have Crittenden's division, of the Ninth Corps, now in position, for your left flank. General Wright is directed to move after you, and take post on your right and rear to protect that flank.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—Major Duane is ordered to throw a bridge across the river as close to your left flank as practicable, and make good approaches to it.

A. A. H.

MAY 24, 1864—5.30 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: My skirmish line has advanced beyond the rifle-pits dug by the enemy during the night. I cannot advance farther without support from your line.

Yours, truly,

CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that the enemy seem to have retired on the right and left, and he wishes you to push forward your skirmishers at least a half a mile.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. MORGAN,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 24, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

I intend to move your division this afternoon, I think out on the road along the railroad opposite your right. I have not yet fully determined which road to take, but will let you know as soon as I do. I give you this preliminary notice that you will have to move. It is by orders from headquarters preparatory to an advance to-morrow. General Meade's headquarters have moved up here, and I am getting all our train around.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—5 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

I wish you would move your column out to Noel's Turnout. Major Roebling will go with you. You can have what artillery you wish. Camp there to-night prepared to move early in the morning.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—11 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

I wish you to move your command down the road along the railroad toward the Junction to-morrow at 4 a. m. till you find the enemy in position in force. Lieutenant-Colonel Hammond with his cavalry will watch your flank and rear and act with you. I shall move out with General Cutler's division to take place on Crawford's right, and you will then come in position on Cutler's right. The object is to develop the position of the enemy. You may be annoyed by the enemy's cavalry in the direction from Little River. General Wright is to move a force out upon your right after you get into position. Support well your right flank till he comes up. If the enemy is in full force intrenched it is not designed to assault.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—Send the accompanying order to Lieutenant-Colonel Hammond, commanding the cavalry near you.

G. K. W.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 24, 1864.

Brigade commanders are directed to be prepared for an early move to-morrow; also to be prepared for a surprise during the night, as the enemy are reported to be on our front.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

C. B. MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 24, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: My picket-line is advancing as the enemy seems to have retired his own during the night. I send a prisoner to you who seems to give reliable information as to the numbers and composition of the enemy's forces.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 24, 1864—5.30 a. m.

General WARREN,
Commanding:

GENERAL: My line has advanced beyond the rifle-pits dug last night by the enemy. Shall I go on?

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 24, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: My line is a quarter of a mile beyond the railroad, on a road parallel with it. I have over 30 prisoners, among whom are a captain and lieutenant. They report that the enemy moved to our left early this morning, and that they are fortifying about 2½ miles from here. Griffin cannot connect with me.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 24, 1864—7.30 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

Never mind connection with General Griffin; move out a small detachment as far as you think it safe. Move a regiment straight along the bank of the river down stream to connect with General Hancock. It may be 2½ miles off. If they should be attacked with more force than they can attend to, they can return or cross to the other side of the river. Tell the commander to be careful and not mistake our troops for the enemy when he approaches them.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

Take your whole division and move down the bank of the river toward Hancock. There is some cavalry in his front at least. If

that is all, then force them; they will clear out. Communicate across at Quarles' Ford with General Burnside. Major Roebling will go with you.

Respectfully, yours,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

I will send other troops to take your line while you are gone.

G. K. WARREN.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—1 p. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have arrived at Quarles' Mills and Ford. It is a sort of falls, but infantry can easily cross. I communicated with General Burnside, and he has sent Crittenden's division, which is now crossing. The enemy's skirmishers have been in my front, as I advanced. Major Van Buren, of General Burnside's staff, reports the enemy strongly intrenched. The enemy does not yet know of our movement.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—2.15 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

You need not advance farther; extend your skirmishers out toward the railroad and see if you can connect with our cavalry. I sent a regiment down the railroad just after you left here. Try and develop in this way as much of the enemy's front as you can, perpendicular to the river. If you hear firing on your right it will be caused by our cavalry.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General WARREN:

GENERAL: I find from the residents that we are at Waltham's Mill (now destroyed), and that Quarles' Ford is about 1 mile above us. The enemy advanced his skirmishers on my right, but they were driven in. He is evidently making new dispositions. Burnside has just ordered Crittenden to face the force opposite Willcox, who is at Ox Ford. A large proportion of Crittenden's force is dismounted riflemen. I fear lest communication with you on this side the river be cut off.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

There is yet one brigade of this division to cross.

S. W. CRAWFORD.

MAY 24, 1864—5 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I have sent Eustis' brigade out to open communication with you.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—11 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I wish you would have your command under motion at 4 to-morrow morning and push out a force if possible along the road toward the railroad, so as to take position on the right of General Crittenden, facing the enemy's main line, and I shall move the rest of the corps down on your right.

Respectfully, yours, &c.,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864.

Captain MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: My men are picking up a good number of stragglers on the railroad. They report that the last train passed down at 2.30 this morning, loaded with lumber from Charlottesville to rebuild the bridge over the South Anna.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—11.30 p. m.

General CUTLER:

Move your command at 4 a. m. to-morrow, by the left flank, behind the line of intrenchments, down to where General Crawford's position was in the fight yesterday. I will join you as the head of your column reaches me. Take the Maryland Brigade with you.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—12.10 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch of 10.30 p. m. received. The last of the two divisions has just reached position, and I have ordered the movement across the river to commence at 2 a. m. The march of to-day has been so trying to the men that it is represented that full one-third the fighting men have fallen out. I thought it my duty to represent this, so that if not important that the move be made to-night the men might have their night's sleep. Colonel Hyde, who has been

with the rear of the corps all day, takes this and can tell you the condition of the men. I beg that it be not supposed I wish to spare the men unnecessarily, but only to get them in good fighting condition by a night's rest, if the condition of affairs will permit it.

Very respectfully,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—6.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have one division in line in support of Fifth Corps; another massed behind that corps, both on the south side of the [North] Anna. The artillery, not being needed, still remains on this side the river, near the artillery of the Fifth Corps. The trains are coming up to within about a mile of the crossing, and will be covered by one brigade of the Third Division. The other brigade of this division is en route to cross river. General Warren is advancing his skirmish line, and so far without opposition.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Since I have been in command of this corps the pontoon train, attached by previous orders, has not been with it, but has been with the supply train, except while it was in use at Fredericksburg for bridging the Rappahannock. It is now at Milford Station with the supply train. By whose orders it was detached from the trains moving with the corps is not clear, but it is said they were from army headquarters. The object of this note is to ask whether these pontoons should continue with the supply train or join me, and, if the latter, the route they should take, as I am in ignorance of our future movements. One company of the volunteer engineers is with it. If the train is to join me I would ask that the necessary orders be issued from your headquarters in order to save time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding Sixth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs you to cross your train, and be prepared to follow General Warren to-morrow morning. General Warren is directed to stretch out toward the South Anna

and send out reconnoitering parties to find out a route for his corps (which you will follow), avoiding the roads from Anderson's Tavern to the Junction or to Taylorsville, which shall cover the South Anna near the mouth of Stag Creek.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL.]

The brigade of General Ricketts' division and the picket force on the Chilesburg road will follow the trains.

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 24, 1864.

This division will move at once, following the Second Division, crossing the river. Order of march: Second Brigade, Fourth Brigade, First Brigade, Third Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Russell:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Plain View, May 24, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of last night was received, after which the necessary orders were given. I proceeded before daylight to General Hancock's, to arrange with him as to the disposition of my forces. He is of the opinion that a demonstration in my front would be of more service to him than the re-enforcements I could send him. I then left General Potter's division to his disposal, and went to the position occupied by General Willcox, in front of Ox Ford, as soon as it was light enough to reconnoiter the position, and have arranged for an effort to carry the ford by the other two divisions of the Ninth Corps. The prospects of success are not at all flattering, but I think the attempt can be made without any very disastrous results, and we may possibly succeed. We did not get into the position last night until after night-fall, so that we knew nothing of the nature of the ground, and it would have been impossible to make an intelligent attack at daylight. The enemy's side of the river is densely wooded along its bank, with high ground in rear, with one battery in position, flanked by rifle-pits, and it is reported that there is another line of rifle-pits in front. The ford is said to be about knee-deep. I think we can approach very near to it on this side under cover. The men are now being placed in the woods, and in a few minutes we shall have eighteen guns bearing on the enemy's battery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Mount Carmel Church, Va., May 24, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will move your entire corps, with trains, to the south side of North Anna this afternoon. General Warren has sent a division on the south side to drive the enemy away from his position opposite you, and General Hancock has sent a brigade for the same purpose. The ford must be opened by the time this reaches you. If not there is one about 1 mile farther up, between you and Warren, that is open; at least, is so reported. You can cross at this one and also at the bridge where Hancock crossed, marching your troops thus crossed to a point opposite to where you now are on the south side. You must get over and camp to-night on the south side. To-night these headquarters will be on the south side of the river on the Telegraph road.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 1 p. m. is received. We have been endeavoring all the morning to drive the enemy from his position opposite us. Have had a road cut through, intersecting the road which leads to the ford, of which you speak, and General Crittenden's division started some time since over that road, with instructions to cross and come down in rear of the position occupied by the enemy at Ox Ford.

General Crawford, who is in command of the division sent by General Warren to the upper ford, informs one of my staff that he is to remain there until further orders, and I have just received a note from General Hancock, stating that he had halted his brigade, lest there might be some confusion by meeting General Warren's division, which he had understood was coming down in that direction. General Crittenden will continue to cross, and, if possible, move down in rear of enemy's position. The ford is very rough and deep, and a considerable portion of the men fall in crossing, thus spoiling their ammunition. Crittenden has crossed two regiments, and a third is now crossing. You may be sure that I will do all in my power to gain this ford, and if I do not succeed, I will cross by Hancock's or Warren's crossing. If it is desirable, I will stop the crossing of Crittenden's command and cross the whole at one of these places. Lieutenant-Colonel Babcock can tell you something of the difficulty of taking this position.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: In accordance with your instructions I commenced movements with a view to throwing the entire corps on the south side of the river and making a junction in front of the position opposite to General Willcox. General Crittenden's division was thrown across the river just above General Willcox. I described the ford to you in a former note. Since I wrote you General Crawford reports that the enemy's line of skirmishers has cut off his communication with General Warren, and General Crittenden has not been able to form a junction with General Potter, who was thrown across over Hancock's bridge. They are both at work now to effect this object. General Crittenden has had quite a sharp fight and met with quite a loss; the amount is not yet known. His aide represents that the enemy were repulsed, and he has sent in some 10 to 20 prisoners. Inasmuch as neither General Crawford nor General Crittenden have any artillery I feel quite anxious about their position, and have therefore directed a bridge capable of passing artillery and infantry to be built, and have taken the responsibility of retaining General Willcox on this side of the river. I shall move my own headquarters to the south side in a few minutes, near to those of General Hancock, unless something should occur to detain me here on this side, in which case I will notify you. I hope the course I have pursued will meet your approbation. I am pretty well satisfied the enemy's works are such as I indicated to Colonel Comstock this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Jericho Ford, Va., May 24, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE.
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: The situation of the enemy appearing so different from what I expected, I do not deem it advisable for you to move your wagon train to the south side of the river to-night, or not any more of it than may now be on the south side. The enemy holding the south bank of the river at Ox Ford, I think it important that you should hold the north side of the same place. You will, therefore, leave at least a battery, supported by a regiment of infantry, well stationed for that purpose. I understand you are moving two divisions to connect with Hancock, and one above Ox Ford to connect with Warren. This will be the best arrangement that can be adopted, and if it is not already carried out you will carry it out at once. Bridges will be laid above and below the point on the river held by the enemy, and as near to it as possible, to-morrow morning, and roads opened between them, so as to bring our right and left as near supporting distance as possible. The only portion of this work you will be charged with will be opening the road near the river between the two bridges. The upper bridge will be laid near Quarles' Mills. The place for the lower one cannot be determined to-night. It may

not be practicable to lay a bridge above the one Hancock now has. You may, therefore, regard the points to be connected by new roads as being that bridge and Quarles' Mills.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
North Anna River, May 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of this evening is received, and I believe I have anticipated your wishes, except that I have thought it best to keep the whole of Willcox's division on this side, in consequence of the trouble that has fallen upon Crittenden, who lost nearly half a brigade in attempting to move down to connect with General Potter, who crossed on Hancock's bridge. The brigade was small, and I think the loss will not be over 600. Both Crittenden and Crawford are well intrenched, and I hope to have a good bridge built by morning, so that we may give them some artillery, if necessary. Would it not be well for Warren to try and open communication with Crawford? Potter attacked at the same time with Crittenden, but he was fortunate in having light losses. I am glad to get the order assigning the corps to the Army of the Potomac, because I think good will result from it.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Jericho Ford, Va., May 24, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You have done quite right to retain General Willcox where he is, under the circumstances. General Warren has been informed of the contents of your note, and will endeavor to open communication with General Crawford. If you can get a bridge across to General Crittenden, it will serve to send artillery or re-enforcements over to him, or will give him the means of withdrawing, as necessity may require.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 25. } *Jericho Ford, Va., May* 24, 1864.

To secure the greatest attainable unanimity in co-operative movements, and greater efficiency in the administration of the army, the Ninth Army Corps, Maj. Gen. A. E. Burnside commanding, is assigned to the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. G. G. Meade commanding, and will report accordingly.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
North Anna River, May 24, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In accordance with Special Orders, No. 25, headquarters Armies of the United States, I have the honor to report to you with the Ninth Army Corps. You know our present position.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the two divisions of your corps, detached to the south side of the river, will be while thus temporarily detached, under the orders, the one of General Hancock and the other of General Warren; the first, Potter's division, the second, Crittenden's division.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. R. B. POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: Move your division on the road to Ox Ford, and occupy the ground lately occupied by General Crittenden. This orderly will remain with you to conduct the head of your column, or will conduct one of your staff officers to my headquarters and I will show him the ground.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you send the brigade of the First Division now with your command to report to General Crittenden without delay. One of the First Division orderlies will act as guide.

Very respectfully,

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Reedy Swamp, Va., May 24, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report my command at Reedy Swamp, about 5 miles from Chesterfield. Not knowing the rebel army had fallen back, I crossed my command over the Pamunkey River, on the railroad bridge at the White House yesterday; camped near Dunkirk last night; this morning I followed the sound of your artillery. Early in the day heard that General Lee had been beaten and driven back to Hanover Junction. On the 21st General Custer destroyed two bridges on the Central Virginia Railroad, and some distance of the track near Hanover Court-House. On the same day Generals Gregg and Wilson drove the enemy's cavalry across the Chickahominy, about 5 miles from Richmond; they would not, however, stand to fight. I then drew my command back to the White House, where supplies were sent me from Fort Monroe. My great difficulty has been about forage and subsistence. I supposed there would be plenty between the Pamunkey and Mattapony Rivers, but found myself mistaken. General Custer reported Breckinridge's command on the railroad when he cut it. I have further evidence of his arrival from the valley; also, that troops have been passing through Richmond for the last three days to re-enforce Lee. It is probable that some of them are from Drewry's Bluff. I shall march to Chesterfield in the morning, unless I receive orders to the contrary. I have one day's rations for my men; no forage for my horses.

Very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 24, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General TORBERT,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general directs that you picket with your command all the roads leading north and west from Mount Carmel Church, and to cover the road to Milford, where the supply trains now are. The Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, under the command of Major Kerwin—the headquarters of which regiment are at New Bethel Church—is placed under your orders, and also a detachment of cavalry commanded by Major Forsyth, Eighth Illinois, which is supposed to be picketing the roads leading in a southerly direction. You can reach Major Kerwin at Bethel Church, and Major Forsyth's location will be communicated to you as soon as it can be ascertained. The Fifth New York Cavalry will probably be returned to you to-night. The commanding general wishes you to establish your headquarters near his own, until the return of General Sheridan. General headquarters to-night will be in the vicinity of Jericho Mills.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FREDERICKSBURG, *May* 24, 1864.
(Received 11.30 a. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

There are 8,000 wounded and sick to be removed from here. Half of them can be sent by railroad. The means for removing them by water is limited, only about 700 being sent yesterday; one of the transports not yet returned. Why not make use of both railroad and transports? Otherwise our men will not get from here in a week. All the transports and boats would be sent to Aquia that cannot be used at Port Royal. Enough of our men to fill them can be sent to Aquia to-day. We await your instructions.

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General.

FREDERICKSBURG, *May* 24, 1864.
(Received 2.45 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Six hundred wounded have already gone to Aquia this morning, and another train will go this afternoon. The railroad is in good order. One load of cars have gone to Alexandria, but enough remain to answer the purpose. Abercrombie has sent a portion of his command to Port Royal to-day. The telegraph operator from Belle Plain has also gone to that point. No office at Belle Plain. Sufficient guards are on the railroad. Pontoon bridge for Port Royal left here this morning.

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General, U. S. Army.

P. S.—General Abercrombie sends word that the wharf at Belle Plain is taken up, and that nothing further can be received there.

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General.

MAY 24, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Major-General AUGUR,
Fredericksburg:

If railroad has not been broken up, use it to bring away sick and wounded. Use any means you can to get them off as early as possible. Telegraph back if the road can be used, so that the Surgeon-General may send transports to receive wounded at Aquia.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 24, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Major-General AUGUR,
Fredericksburg:

Chief engineer has just reported that he will keep railroad in operation as long as possible to bring away wounded. Don't let

troops be sent away till everything and everybody is safe. Give protection to railroad as long as necessary. Dr. Barnes has been notified to receive wounded at Aquia and bring them away.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., *May* 24, 1864.
(Received 6.40 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

An orderly has just arrived from General Grant's headquarters, which he states were 9 miles beyond Milford Station and about 5 this side of the North Anna. He left there at 4 o'clock this morning. He states that the Sixth and Second Corps crossed the North Anna last night before dark, with slight opposition, and that the other corps were close up. General Grant's headquarters were to move forward this morning. He states further that there was a good deal of musketry firing during the night, and that cannonading has been going on this morning.

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., *May* 24, 1864.

Captain ORR,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

But about 1,400 of the 8,000 wounded and sick have been removed from here. General Lockwood arrived with his command last night. I shall ask him to remain until General Abercrombie arrives here with his Belle Plain troops. Do I understand rightly that General Abercrombie will move in person by the way of Fredericksburg? Please answer immediately.

ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 24, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER,
Commanding, Fredericksburg:

COLONEL: I will march overland to Port Royal by the shortest route. On my arrival I will endeavor to visit you in person. One pontoon bridge from Fredericksburg, General Benham tells me, is to be moved to Port Royal in order to cross my troops and afford the means of sending protection to the telegraph. Let me know whether you intend to send more wounded to Aquia Creek. If so I will leave the guard there. Send nothing more here as the bridge wharf is taken up, and everything will be abandoned to-day. Answer immediately.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 24, 1864—12 m.

Col. E. SCHRIVER:

I leave at 2 p. m. this day. A small guard will be left here until the railroad to Aquia is abandoned.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 24, 1864.

I. Colonel Cavins, commanding Provisional Brigade: Have your command ready to move at once. The line will be formed with the right resting on Wadsworth's barn at 2 p. m. this day. Your regular battalion on right of brigade.

II. Captain Edwards, commanding Reserve Artillery: Have your command ready to move at once and will assemble at Wadsworth's barn at 2 p. m. this day. One light battery will be detailed to march on right of column in rear of cavalry.

III. Colonel Cesnola, commanding dismounted cavalry: You will have your command ready to march at once. Your command will assemble at 2 p. m. this day at the Wadsworth barn. Detail one effective squadron to lead the column, properly officered.

IV. Major Beardsley, commanding Sixth New York: Have your command ready to march at once. Form your command on the left of Colonel Cesnola's column punctually at 2 p. m. this day. This command is to assemble at the Wadsworth barn.

By order of Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie:

R. L. ORR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Belle Plain, Va., May 24, 1864.

Colonel CLENDENIN:

On your arrival at Port Conway the artillery will be encamped on the most commanding point and in preference where it can protect the bridge party, and infantry near by for its support. As soon as the bridge is completed the command will cross to Port Royal, and occupy the most defensible points. Should there be a sufficient force of cavalry to guard the approaches to Port Royal, you will cross the river and scout the banks above and below Port Conway for 8 or 10 miles, and continue this duty until my arrival with the remainder of the command.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
*May 24, 1864.**

Col. A. G. DRAPER, *Commanding at Point Lookout:*

Send out your cavalry and whatever force is needed to arrest all deserters from the Army of the Potomac. Let none escape. If

*Sent 9 a. m. May 25.

any officers are among them put them in irons and send them here to General Augur. Send the privates also to General Augur under sufficient guard. Report to this Department on this matter and the state of your command at 9 a. m. and 7 p. m. every day until further order.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

POINT LOOKOUT, *May* 24, 1864.
(Received 12.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Four hundred and ninety-four enlisted prisoners of war arrived from Belle Plain last evening. Yesterday afternoon as the prisoners were going from dinner a sentinel of the Thirty-sixth Colored Regiment, without justification, fired at one of them, wounding him mortally, of which he died last night, wounding another seriously and two others slightly. I respectfully recommend that a court of inquiry of officers not belonging to the post be ordered to investigate the affair.

Respectfully,

W. HOFFMAN,
Commissary-General of Prisoners.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 24, 1864—12.30 a. m.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch relating to movement of General Grant is received. There is an entire mistake in that part of it relating to Hoke's troops being in the Army of the Potomac, unless they left since last night. There are before me the following brigades, all of which have prisoners taken within the last four days: Ransom's brigade—Forty-ninth North Carolina, Colonel McAfee; Twenty-fourth North Carolina, Clarke; Fifty-sixth North Carolina, Faison; Twenty-fifth North Carolina, Rutledge; Thirty-fifth North Carolina, Jones. Hunton's (Garnett's old)—Eighth Virginia, Berkeley; Nineteenth Virginia, Gantt; Twenty-eighth Virginia, Allen; Thirty-second Virginia, Montague. Barton's (Armistead's old, Colonel Aylett, of Fifty-third Virginia, commanding) brigade—Ninth Virginia, Owens; Fourteenth Virginia, Hodges; Thirty-eighth Virginia, Edmonds; Fifty-third Virginia, Aylett; Fifty-seventh Virginia, Dyer. Corse's—Twenty-ninth Virginia; Fifteenth Virginia, Morrison; Seventeenth Virginia, Herbert; Thirtieth Virginia, Cary; Eighteenth Virginia, Carrington. Terry's (Kemper's old)—First Virginia, Williams; Third Virginia, Mayo; Seventh Virginia, Patton; Eleventh Virginia, Otey; Twenty-fourth Virginia, Terry, commanding brigade. Hoke's old brigade, Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis now commanding brigade—Sixth North Carolina, Colonel Avery, now at Plymouth; the rest of the brigade are here; Twenty-first North Carolina, Colonel Pfohl; Forty-third North Carolina; Fifty-fourth North Carolina, McDowell; Fifty-seventh North Carolina, Godwin; Twenty-first Geor-

gia, Mercer. Hagood's brigade—Eleventh South Carolina, Colonel Gantt; Twenty-first South Carolina, Colonel Graham; Twenty-fifth South Carolina, Pressley; Twenty-seventh South Carolina. Bushrod Johnson's brigade—Seventeenth Tennessee; Twenty-third Tennessee; Sixty-third Tennessee, Fulkerson; —— Tennessee. Wise's brigade—Fifty-ninth Virginia, Tabb, and three Virginia regiments. Clingman's brigade of North Carolina troops. Gracie's, of South Carolina and Georgia troops. Walker's, of Georgia and South Carolina troops is here, and Martin's, of North Carolina troops.

General Walker, of South Carolina and Georgia troops, was captured on Friday. His brigade consists of 4,100 men, by memoranda found in his pocket. The Petersburg Saturday paper admits between 500 and 600 killed and wounded in the contest with us on Friday, in which it says Wise's, Martin's, and Clingman's brigades took part. It says: "Our column was under the immediate command of D. H. Hill, but General Beauregard was on the field, and his superior military abilities, of course, contributed largely toward the success of the movements, while his presence inspired the enthusiasm which rendered our men irresistible."

I have a prisoner from Gracie's brigade, of Anderson's division, of Longstreet's corps, and he says that his brigade is here present. A part of Pickett's division went north before we landed here, leaving Petersburg entirely bare of troops until the remainder came from North Carolina. In a conference with a flag of truce to-day my officers talked with the brigade and regimental commanders of two different brigades of two different divisions besides those mentioned in the Petersburg papers. I have prisoners from each of these brigades and from nearly every regiment.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 24, 1864—12.30 a. m.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have some 25,000 effective men for duty on this peninsula, besides my own worn-out cavalry and the negro troops necessary to hold open communication at Forts Powhatan, Clark, and Wilson's Wharf. There are nearly 10,000 guarding the various railroads and bridges forming the connections south. I know I am employing one-third more of the enemy's force than I have, yet as soon as I get my lines so strengthened as to be able to leave them in charge of few men I shall resume offensive operations at the earliest moment. I telegraph this to correct what seems to be a misapprehension.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 24, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

General Grant directed that you have 20,000 men, exclusive of artillery and cavalry, which are not wanted, ready to be moved as

may be ordered. Your position at City Point will be prepared for defense by a small force. General Grant crossed the North Anna near railroad bridge on the 22d, and on the 23d was moving on the South Anna.

HALLECK,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 24, 1864—9.40 p. m.
(Received 10.10 a. m. 25th.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Dispatches from General Grant, just received, report that yesterday the enemy were driven across the North Anna with severe loss, and our troops are pursuing. Negroes report that Lee is retreating to Richmond. General Grant says everything looks exceedingly favorable for us. Your dispatch of (12.30) this day is received and sent to General Grant.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

BERMUDA, *May* 24, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

Captain Wise, who came here with General Meigs, came up from Jamestown Island, where he had been with dispatches, and reports an attack by the rebels on our troops at Wilson's Landing, and heard as he passed light musketry firing outside the works. He also passed a steamer with re-enforcements from Fort Powhatan. The affair appeared to be over when he left.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.

BERMUDA, *May* 24, 1864.
(Received 12.10 a. m. 25th.)

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

Steamers Patuxent and Johnson have been ordered to report at once to upper wharf on Appomattox, and they start immediately. Transportation will be in readiness here for the cavalry of Kautz's division.

GEO. S. DODGE,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

JAMESTOWN, VA., *May* 24, 1864.
(Received 10.30 a. m. 25th.)

General H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

What has been done here is, first, to occupy and fortify a strong position as a depot and base; second, to demonstrate upon and

occupy a strong force of the enemy, while railroads have been cut, and their use temporarily interrupted; third, to collect ample supplies of subsistence, forage, and ammunition. What can be done is, first, to assume the offensive with the object of again cutting railroads, occupy the enemy, and perhaps recalling any troops lately detached to re-enforce Lee, with a chance of capturing Petersburg, and a certainty of being prepared to unite with General Grant in the investment of Richmond, or, second, remain purely on the defensive, sacrifice the water communication by the James River for a time, and spare 20,000 men for transfer to the Army of the Potomac. What in our opinion ought to be done is either, first, to place an officer of military experience and knowledge in command of these two corps, thus making them a unit for field operations, and then assume the offensive; or, second, to withdraw 20,000 men to be used elsewhere. General Butler is a man of rare and great ability, but he has not experience and training to enable him to direct and control movements in battle. A corps gives its commander full occupation on the battle-field, and leaves him no time to make suggestions to the commander-in-chief as to the movements of two corps. General Butler is satisfied with the ability and aid of General William F. Smith. He does not appear to be satisfied with General Gillmore. General Butler evidently desires to retain command in the field. If his desires must be gratified, withdraw Gillmore, place Smith in command of both corps under the supreme command of General Butler; let Smith put Brooks in command of one corps, and Weitzel of the other, unless you can send here better officers. You will thus have a command which will be a unit, and General Butler will probably be guided by Smith, and leave to him the suggestions and practical execution of army movements ordered. Success would be more certain were Smith in command untrammeled, and General Butler remanded to the administrative duties of the department in which he has shown such rare and great ability. We are on our way to Washington, touching at Jamestown to forward this dispatch, and at Fort Monroe where orders may reach us, if desirable. A deserter to-day from Colquitt's (Georgia) brigade states that it is reported in the enemy's camp that troops have been detached to re-enforce Lee. He thinks that only about four brigades remain, but that Beauregard still commands. Troops at Wilson's Wharf were attacked by Fitz. Lee, and steamer fired into to-day. The attack was repulsed.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.
J. G. BARNARD,
Brigadier-General, &c.

GILLMORE'S,
May 24, 1864—6.10 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I judge the enemy are yet in front of us in considerable force from last night's reconnaissance.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 24, 1864—7.50 a. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

The commanding general directs me to ask you how the discrepancy of nearly 2,000 men arises between your estimate of troops and the regular tri-monthly return?

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GILLMORE'S,
May 24, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The statement called for was an approximate estimate of the effective force of my command. In answer I sent the number present for duty equipped. By referring to the columns in the tri-monthly bearing this heading it will be found that if any discrepancy exists it is insignificant.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 24, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Colonel SERRELL,
First New York Volunteer Engineers:

Your proposed plan for the modification of the line is approved. You can commence work on it at once.

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Engineers.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 24, 1864—10.05 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

No further details for night work have been ordered.

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 24, 1864—4.40 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you detail one regiment, with its arms, to take position during this night at the new redoubt in front of Battery No. 3, and that you renew this guard every night until the redoubt is fully armed and garrisoned. The orders of the guard will be to hold against any attempts on part of the enemy to take it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General.

SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 24, 1864.

General BUTLER:

I would respectfully suggest that a general order be immediately issued by you to the effect that whenever a fatigue party be ordered the officers in the detail are to be strictly responsible for the work done or for the tools under their charge, and whenever found and reported for neglect of this duty they be summarily dismissed the service of the United States.

Respectfully,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 24, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

The commanding general directs that you dismount Cole's cavalry and send them at once to City Point, with their howitzers. The troops from City Point have been sent to Wilson's Wharf, that post being vigorously attacked this evening. Have them take plenty of ammunition. I have ordered boats to upper wharf. If you think best, send with them a section of battery.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 24, 1864.

Colonel COLE,
U. S. Colored Cavalry:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you dismount your regiment and prepare to go to City Point at once, in light marching order, with one day's rations. Boats will be in readiness at upper wharf. You will take your howitzers. Take 60 rounds of ammunition. If you have not sufficient ammunition report immediately. Leave usual guard for horses and camp.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 30. HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 24, 1864.

I. When ambulances are required to carry away sick men from their regiments to the corps hospital or elsewhere, a written request made by the senior medical officer of the regiment, countersigned by his regimental commander, will be recognized by the lieutenant in charge of the division ambulances and the ambulance furnished.

II. Chief of ambulances will direct his subordinates to keep a record of all ambulances sent on special application to any regiment while the army is encamped; the time of the departure of the ambu-

lance and its return to the ambulance park will be noted, and the nature of the duty performed. This formality will be dispensed with while on the march or during battle.

III. The position of division ambulances in the column while the army is moving will be to the rear of each division, unless otherwise specially ordered.

By command of Major-General Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 32. HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., May 24, 1864.*

Hereafter all men and officers found outside of their camps without proper authority from division commander will be arrested and charged with disobedience of orders. Provost-marshals of the corps and divisions are ordered to send out pickets and see that this order be obeyed. Regimental commanders and officers having charge of men on detached duty are authorized to give permits to bathe, not to exceed 10 enlisted men to a company, under a non-commissioned officer, at 5 a. m. and 7 p. m. daily. They will not be allowed to bathe within sight of steam-boat landings, and on no account near the line of pickets.

By command of Major-General Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. H. MARTINDALE,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you immediately establish a line of pickets across the creek, one-quarter of a mile in front of the house, and reaching from the creek to the Appomattox River, with strong reserves. If necessary, you will throw a whole regiment over for this duty, totally disregarding the pickets from the gun-boats, as they are liable to be moved at any time, notifying them of your line. When this is accomplished you will please inform me. A company of cavalry will be ordered to report to you daily, for patrol duty in front of your line of pickets, in daylight, but will be withdrawn to this side of the creek at night, with the exception of a sergeant and 10 men. These latter will be ordered by you to report to these headquarters and to yourself any information that may come under their notice during the night. No gun-boat firing will of itself be noticed.

By command of Major-General Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *May* 24, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: Reports from Wilson's Wharf state that Fitzhugh Lee demanded the surrender of the post at 2 p. m. At 5 o'clock his at-

tack had been repulsed. I have sent the Thirty-seventh Regiment to re-enforce the post, and shall proceed, as soon as I can obtain transportation, with Choate's battery and the Fifth Regiment, to join him. This leaves at City Point the Fifth Massachusetts Cavalry, dismounted, and a battalion of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry. A body of our troops are reported by contrabands to be landing at the White House. Will you send a regiment at once to City Point?

EDWARD W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
James River, May 24, 1864—9 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 5 p. m. 25th. Received 6 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Otsego arrived to-day. Monitors practice at Howlett's battery. Enemy seem to have stopped working on it. Monitors also practiced yesterday to get range to protect right flank of army. Generals Meigs and Barnard here. No change in the situation. Monitors need fresh provisions.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HDQRS. DEFENSES OF NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH,
Portsmouth, Va., May 24, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Maj. J. S. GATES,
Bowers' Hill, Va.:

MAJOR: I am instructed by the general commanding to say to you that he does not see that any advantage will be gained by attacking the enemy at present. He grants you permission to go out a short distance beyond Suffolk with a small force of cavalry, in order to ascertain the force and whereabouts of the enemy, but does not wish you to bring on an engagement.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. L. MCHENRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEFENSES OF NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH,
Portsmouth, Va., May 24, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major GATES,
Commanding Outposts:

The object of your reconnaissance is to obtain information as to the strength, position, and designs of the enemy. I have not force enough to occupy any position now occupied by the enemy, nor do I propose extending my lines. To fight simply because you know that there is any of the enemy in the neighborhood, without having any clear, well-designed object to obtain, is simply to exhaust the material that you may soon stand in need of. Your instructions are to avoid any unnecessary engagement.

Very respectfully,

I. VOGDES,
Brigadier-General.

JERICHO FORD, VA., *May* 25, 1864—12 noon.
(Received 2 a. m. 26th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

The enemy are evidently making a determined stand between the two Annas. It will probably take us two days to get in position for a general attack or to turn their position, as may favor best. Send Butler's force to White House to land on north side and march up to join this army. The James River should be held to City Point, but leave nothing more than is absolutely necessary to hold it, acting purely on the defensive. The enemy will not undertake any offensive operations there, but will concentrate everything here. Breckinridge is unquestionably here. Sixty-six officers and men have been captured who were with Hoke in the capture of Plymouth. If Hunter can possibly get to Charlottesville and Lynchburg, he should do so, living on the country. The railroads and canals should be destroyed beyond possibility of repair for weeks. Completing this he could find his way back to his original base, or from about Gordonsville join this army.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Quarles' Mills, Va., May 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE, *Comdg. Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: Direct Generals Warren and Wright to withdraw all their teams and artillery not in position to the north side of the river to-morrow. Send that belonging to General Wright's corps as far on the road to Hanovertown as it can go without attracting attention to the fact. Send with it Wright's best division, or division under his ablest commander. Have this place filled up in the line, so if possible the enemy will not notice their withdrawal. Send the cavalry to-morrow afternoon, or as much of it as you may deem necessary to watch and seize, if they can, Littlepage's Bridge and Taylor's Ford, and to remain on one or the other side of the river at those points until the infantry and artillery all pass. As soon as it is dark to-morrow night start the division which you withdraw first from Wright's corps to make a forced march to Hanovertown, taking with them no teams to impede their march. At the same time this division starts commence withdrawing all of the Fifth and Sixth Corps from the south side of the river and march them for the same place. The two divisions of the Ninth Corps not now with Hancock may be moved down the north bank of the river, where they will be handy to support Hancock if necessary, or will be that much on their road to follow the Fifth and Sixth Corps. Hancock should hold his command in readiness to follow as soon as the way is clear for him to-morrow. It will leave nothing for him to do, but as soon as he can he should get all his teams and spare artillery on the road or roads which he will have to take. As soon as the troops reach Hanovertown they should get possession of all the crossings they can in that neighborhood.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

I think it would be well to make a heavy cavalry demonstration on the enemy's left to-morrow afternoon also.

U. S. G.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General A. A. HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: A prisoner received this p. m. from A. P. Hill's corps says he understood that Lee's army lies in its usual order—Hill in the center. This man is very ignorant and has been in the army but a short time. Another from Longstreet's corps is intelligent, and I think truthful. He was sent in with the colored sergeant and says that Longstreet's line is a straight one now running, he thinks, parallel with the river. It was not so at first, but the corps fell back from its first line. A. P. Hill's line he thinks to be in the shape of a half moon, but can give nothing more definite in regard to either. He thinks that Ewell's corps has gone farther toward Richmond, because day before yesterday he was near a regiment in it in which he had friends, when they received the order to march, and he saw what he took to be the corps off; we have only had stragglers from Ewell since. Our scouts are in from the right, who report that they learn from citizens living beyond the Telegraph road that troops came from the valley on Monday last about noon, and they gave out that there was nothing left in the valley.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
At Jericho Mills, south side North Anna,
May 25, 1864—10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, Washington:

I have the honor to report that a train of over 400 wagons leaves our general parks this morning for Port Royal to take in sick and wounded, and to return with supplies. It goes in escorted by 550 cavalry. It is presumed that Captain Pitkin has established himself at Port Royal, and that supplies are already accumulated. He had my instructions what to do. These headquarters are situated about 35 miles from Fredericksburg, and 30 from Port Royal. I desire to remind you that the frequent changes made in depots from the Orange and Alexandria Railroad to Belle Plain and Port Royal, are made in every instance by order of Lieutenant-General Grant. It would have given greater facilities to re-enforce and supply this army, had the Aquia railroad been put in repair as we advanced, but I suppose General Grant has in view military movements that render that road unnecessary.

I see no difficulty in supplying the army, provided our trains are as securely protected in future as they have been to this time. The enemy is in our immediate front. Apparently both armies are now massed between the two Annas. So soon as means of transportation will permit, I desire you will cause 1,000 artillery horses to be sent to me. We shall probably require more, though I have no present means of knowing. Lieutenant-General Grant has just ordered that the Ninth Corps be attached to this army. We have in all about 4,100 wagons. My general park of some 3,000 wagons is now 10 miles in our rear. We have had no embarrassment with them.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864.

The designating flag for these headquarters will, until further orders, be a small national flag.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864.

Headquarters will move at 2 p. m. to-day to the vicinity of Quarles' Mills.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 144. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. Corps commanders will employ all available time when in the vicinity of the railroad in its destruction. Working parties will be detailed in each division for the purpose under competent officers to superintend and push the work.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 25, 1864—5 a. m.

[General W. S. HANCOCK:]

GENERAL: Colonel Brooke reports the enemy as stronger than last night. General Barlow has only one brigade in the breast-work and General Birney has two. If you want Birney's division in reserve, General Barlow can easily occupy the whole line, I think. I have sent Major Angel to the right to examine Potter's line. It may be necessary for us to extend farther in that direction to keep our connection with the river. If you wish General Birney in reserve, please have Colonel Walker write to General Barlow to relieve Birney's line. I am going over to General Gibbon's.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 25, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Lieut. Col. C. H. MORGAN,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: General Hancock directs me to say that he does not think it necessary that General Birney's division should be relieved by General Barlow, and that he will give no orders about it unless he

sees you further. It is of the greatest importance, however, that our line should be closely and strongly connected with the river, especially on the right. Please have this accurately determined.

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that a negro has just come into the cavalry lines from Hanover Junction, who says that he is an orderly sergeant of the Second U. S. Colored Cavalry; was captured at Plymouth, but by a change of clothes succeeded in passing himself off as an officer's servant. He says that at Plymouth he witnessed all the massacres that are reported to have occurred there. He came to Hanover Junction as the servant of a Confederate officer; left Richmond Sunday. I send him up for examination as to his story. I also send a man from Longstreet's corps, captured this morning.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

General headquarters have been moved to the Quarles' Mills, about three-quarters of a mile below Jericho Bridge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864—9 p. m. (Received 9.20 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Have you done anything in the way of destroying the Fredericksburg railroad? If not, I wish you to-morrow to employ as large a part of your force as you can in this work, tearing up the rails, and, by means of the ties, heating and bending them.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SECOND CORPS,
May 25, 1864—9.20 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have been at work at the railroad this afternoon. That part of the bridge which was not burned is completely destroyed forward to the curve, and to such a point as the enemy cannot observe what is going on, and backwards, also, the rails have been taken up and bent by using the ties; the work will be continued to-morrow backwards.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I do not know the facts, but it has been reported to me that General Burnside is not intrenched on his left in front of Ox Ford, connecting with my right. I think he should be intrenched there. He has a rifle-pit down by the edge of the river, but if the enemy are determined to come in there, it can easily be carried.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I have directed Burnside to intrench Willcox.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864—11.10 p. m. (Received 11.40 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Can't you dispense with the cavalry on your left? It is important, as they are recruits and returned veterans, that they should join their regiments. Answer.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864—11.50 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have been waiting for report from General Gibbon respecting the cavalry. If it can properly be relieved I will order it to report to its regiment.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
Near Taylor's Bridge, May 25, 1864.

Whenever regiments of heavy artillery shall be assigned for temporary purposes to the infantry divisions of the corps, division commanders will have them instructed, as far as may be considered safe in the circumstances, in picket duty, mixing them in with the old men.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 25, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: The enemy is reported as moving from my extreme left toward my right, but whether as far as Barlow's front or not, I

do not know. Yours of 6.05 just received. My skirmishers extend to the river, not my line of battle. If I had a squadron of cavalry here I could use them to take care of my left flank and dispense with this line of skirmishers, besides they would be in a very good position to attack the enemy should he advance on the left, which, however, is not likely. Everything is right, now and then a shot only.

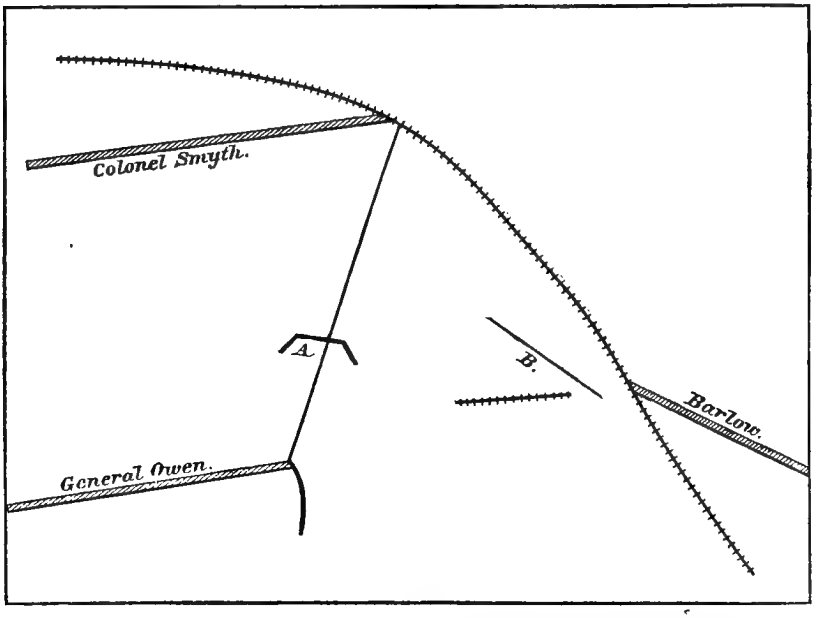
Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 25, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: Yours of 8.45 is received. I regret to find my dispositions do not suit you. The right of my front line does strike the railroad in front of General Barlow's left, as shown in the sketch, and my men are now engaged in intrenching.



A work is now being put up at A, to extend over toward General Barlow's, and I have sent two regiments of McKeen's brigade to occupy the position B. My skirmish line connects with General Barlow's. My front line can be withdrawn on the right if you desire it, but I respectfully submit that as it is in presence of the enemy it would be better to allow it to remain there and make the connection as I propose, as I have another strong line to the rear of the right of my line, the right resting on the railroad.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

CHANDLER'S HOUSE, *May* 25, 1864—12.15 p. m.

General GIBBON:

Will advise you as to your part of it when I can see General Hancock.

WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

To be destroyed.

CHANDLER'S HOUSE, *May* 25, 1864.

General GIBBON:

General Hancock is here, and wishes me to say that if you have anything to communicate about your lines to send by signal.

TAYLOR.

CHANDLER'S HOUSE, *May* 25, 1864—9 a. m.

General Birney:

General Hancock wishes to know if Colonel Morgan is at your headquarters.

TAYLOR.

MAY 25, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

Colonel Morgan has gone with General Potter to look at his lines.

BIRNEY,
General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864—4.15 p. m.

General BIRNEY:

The major-general commanding directs that you take possession of the section of Arnold's battery referred to in your note, and hold it if it is near you. You should enforce your orders in such cases. The major-general commanding will have the matter duly investigated.

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Be very cautious in your advance. A contraband has just come in, who reports quite a force over there.

F. A. W.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding has directed me to inform you that a new pontoon bridge has been laid above the railroad bridge in rear of your command. He directs that a road practicable for wagons and artillery be at once cut, leading to it, and that the ditches be bridged.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 25, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

General Griffin has advanced down the railroad and engaged the enemy's skirmishers there. General Crawford has engaged them on the right of General Crittenden. General Cutler and General Griffin are now establishing a good connection. General Wright, I believe, is moving up troops to Griffin's right. I suppose the enemy's skirmishers are probably a half mile in advance of their main one. As soon as all is in order we will drive them in to their breast-works if they have any, and ascertain their position. It seems as if the enemy was here in force.

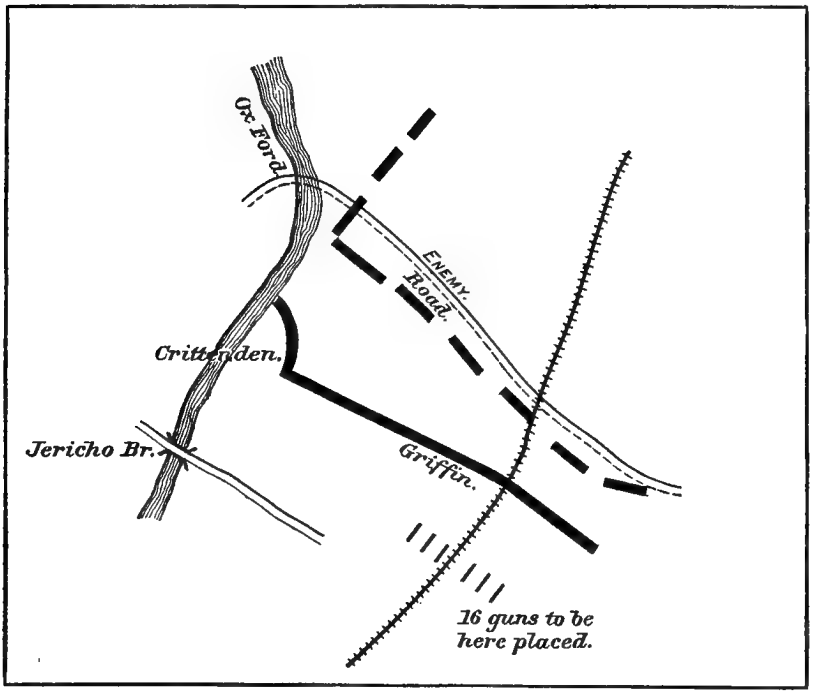
Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 25, 1864—8.20 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: Found General Warren at last, say, 1½ miles from you. I indicate the lines. General Warren finds the enemy intrenched



quite to the railroad. His line can reach only to the rail—and he has told Wright so. Skirmishing in front, but only a waste of ammunition. Warren has sent to say so. We now move to the right. Warren's line is pretty oblique. He will try to rectify.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

I am in connection with Bartlett's brigade, Griffin's division, near the Anderson house, and have formed my lines nearly parallel to the road along which I came. I send this by an officer who is instructed to bring back the two brigades which were sent to establish the connection with Crawford last night. I shall keep up my connection with your right, and move with it.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 25, 1864—10 a. m.

General MEADE:

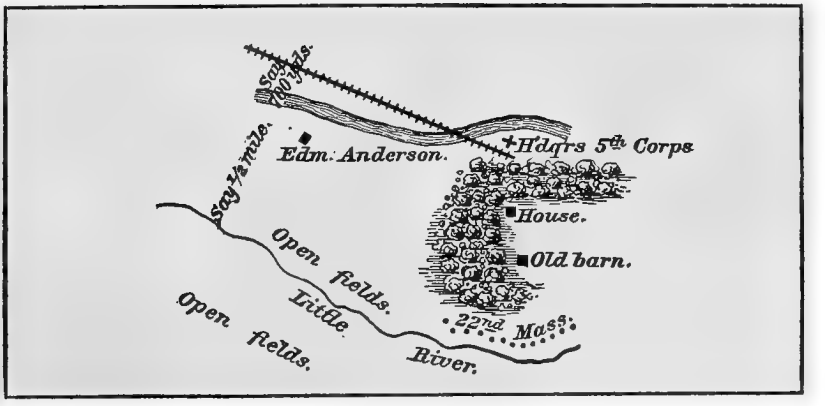
I inclose a sketch* of the position. The enemy has intrenchments visible on the railroad and on the river. Distance between about 1 mile. The intervening space is filled with skirmishers behind logs and trees. There are cavalry skirmishers along Little River south and west of us. General Wright is in position facing them. All along my front there is an open space between our skirmishers. I send you a sketch. I am going to ask General Wright to develop his line west across the Little River, and then go to the left of my line, push out a force to flank their skirmishers, and try and push them back with as little loss as I can. I think the enemy is in force.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 25, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: I have been along near our pickets of Warren's right flank—see "house" and "old barn." The enemy are on the other



side of Little River. The Twenty-second Massachusetts was covering as indicated. The river is reported 50 feet wide, muddy, slow, and apparently rather deep; but Anderson says it is seldom over

*Not found; but see Warren to Meade, 12 m., p. 192.

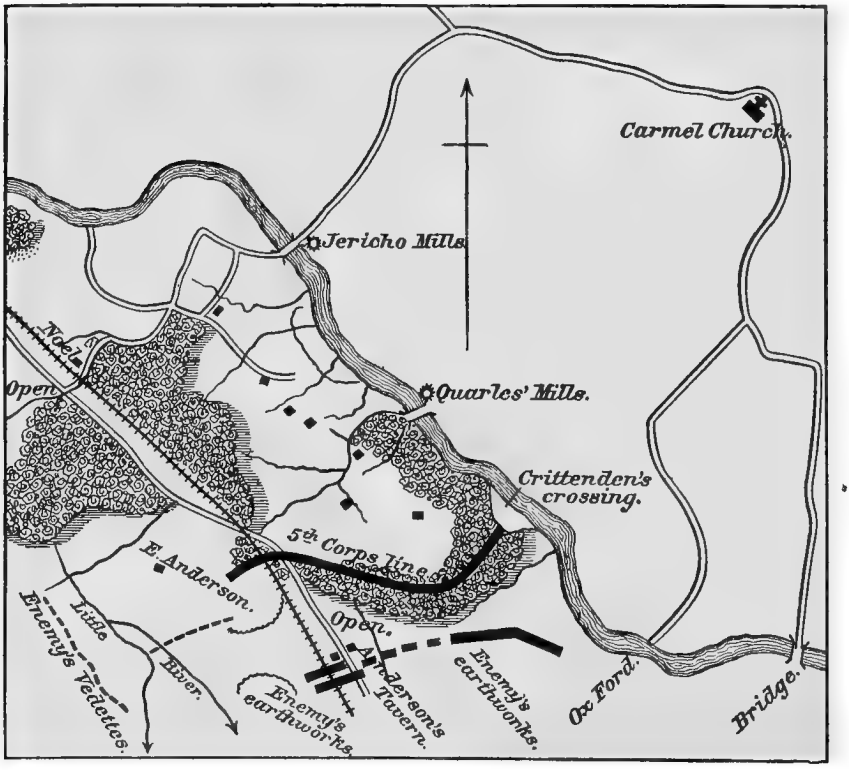
one's waist, though the banks are bad. General Wright is facing Little River, and his skirmishers just closed to the left to connect with the Twenty-second Massachusetts. This regiment reports chopping and talking in their front; and across the river from Anderson's the signal officer reports them carrying rails, but all this may indicate only a few men.

T. LYMAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Volunteer Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864—12 m.

Major-General MEADE:

I send you now an exact sketch of developments as far as made. I have found the intrenchments visible on the left and right, and I inclose a report of General Cutler on the result of his effort to push on in the center. My line makes a salient at this point. Sharpshooters are very active. I have my troops in two lines, and cover a front reaching near to Little River. I cannot extend farther without making a weak line. I feel satisfied that I should have great difficulty at best in whipping the enemy in my front. Perhaps if General Wright were to send a division across Little River we would be able to develop the intrenched line farther.



We can hear wood-chopping south of the river, which just beyond us bends southward and perhaps forms part of their line. The

woods, however, prevent seeing much anywhere. On my right General Griffin has got eight guns in an enfilading position to the enemy's skirmish line, and will fire pretty soon. To advance my right carries me over a clear field three-fourths of a mile, with the enemy intrenched on the other side. General Cutler's report gives you an idea of the trouble in the center, and General Crittenden's advance last night shows the state of things on my left. Do you wish anything further done?

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General WARREN:

I can't find any way to get at the flank of the enemy's skirmishers. I am of the opinion that there may be a salient near my center; the fire at that point is very galling. I have had 2 officers and some 18 to 20 men killed, and a large number wounded. I have instructed my pickets to get around as well as they can, and not fire any more than is absolutely necessary.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

General GRANT:

I should judge from the within that, unless Warren attacks, not much more can be done in his front.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

I do not think any attack should be made until preparations are made to use our whole force. The best Warren can do now is to cover his men well in their advanced position, and rest them all he can ready for active service. If you think proper to send a division of Wright's force across Little River do so, but I think unless there is some reason for it that I do not know, it would be better not to send them over until the cavalry gets around.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 25, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I have moved my lines to the left, to connect with Griffin, as I felt solicitous about that part of our joint position. That angle seems to me very important, and I suggest that Bartlett's brigade be brought up in support of that point as soon as it can be spared from its work of destroying the railroad.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch of 12 m. received. I do not see that you can do anything more by way of examinations. You may now cover your men in your advanced position, and let them rest prior to more active service. I have given the opinion to General Wright that I could see nothing to be gained by crossing Little River. If, however, you think anything important can be done by crossing, you can direct General Wright, in my name, to send a division. Will the stream require bridging, or is it fordable? Can artillery be crossed? I propose, as soon as Sheridan gets up (expected to-day), to send a cavalry force around to the right to reconnoiter. It is of great importance to know whether it is worth while for us to stay here and make any other movement on the enemy's left flank. I should think with the obstacles of Little River and another stream beside the South Anna that such a course is not advisable, but I am not prepared to positively say so for want of information as to the enemy's position beyond Little River. Show this note to Wright, and do what is best after consulting with him.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 25, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I expected to see you as you went over the river, and waited near Crittenden's division where I was examining the lines for some time. I then went to see General Wright but he was out making dispositions for his encampment. I think it was too late to make any demonstration across Little River. This stream is fordable in many places, and is not much of an obstacle. I think Hill's corps is opposite me and I would not advise an attack on the position. I cannot understand the object of his holding this position, which we can easily turn, but if his men would stand well in an attack it gives him a great advantage of interior position in the present disposition of our forces. As it is I do not much fear he will concentrate on either wing of our army. We are tolerably well intrenched already. I lost about 150 men and 10 or 12 officers to-day killed and wounded.

Respectfully, yours,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps
(Through General Wright's Headquarters):

The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw all your teams and such of your artillery as is not in position or required for defense to the north side of the river to-night by the bridge at Quarles' Mills.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864—9.55 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Cross your wagons and surplus artillery to the north side of the river by Jericho Bridge or Quarles' Bridge, whichever is most convenient to you, letting Wright use Jericho Bridge first if you conclude to use it. Get your trains well out of the way and parked convenient for moving, by way of Carmel Church.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 25, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General WARREN:

GENERAL: The cavalry under my command are picketing at Owen's Ford and all the roads west and south from Temperance Chapel. My left connects with the Sixth Corps at Anderson's crossing on Little River. Nothing but cavalry appears in my front across the river.

Very respectfully,

J. HAMMOND,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fifth New York Cavalry.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: My picket-line covers General Cutler's front almost entirely. I have asked him to relieve it, but he does not do it. I hope you will order it as my men are exhausted with the constant duty they have been on. I connect with General Griffin.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

The enemy made an attempt yesterday to reach the river. He advanced and intrenched on our right, and it is at the point where he is closest that the firing is going on.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I am connected with Griffin (right of Fifth Corps) and am forming my lines nearly parallel to road lying south of and nearly parallel to railroad. Nothing of enemy discovered so far except cavalry, and Colonel Hammond's force of cavalry now here has seen nothing more. I have requested him to send a squadron back to watch the ford over Little River on the road which crosses the railroad nearly in front of the right of General Warren's position of yesterday.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The dispatch* of the major-general commanding, of 10.30 a. m., is received. I have just seen Warren, whose position he has reported, and I do not see how he can do more without attacking the enemy. My own line is within a few hundred yards of Little River, with my skirmish line overlooking it in front of Anderson's, and I do not see what more I can do without crossing the river. The enemy has some force on the other side; not large, I think, but he has some works, as his skirmish-line is covered. My officers report works on the edge of the woods some 500 yards in rear of his skirmish line and nearly parallel to the course of the river, and negroes report the same thing. I might send a division across the Little River and ascertain what there really is there, but to do so would interfere with the present disposition of my force and uncover our old position. I do not advise this unless it is of great importance that the enemy should be developed in that direction. Our pickets are firing somewhat. A negro just in says the rebels are putting up works from here to New Market bridge on the Little River. The two shots just fired were at a small body of infantry on the other side the river.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

General GRANT:

Do you think it advisable or necessary for General Wright to cross the Little River?

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT:

The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw all your teams, and such of your artillery as is not in position or required for defense to the north side of the river to-night by the bridge at Jericho.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Can Potter hold the line from Hancock's right to the river? If so I would retain Willcox on the north side fronting the enemy and keeping up connection between Potter and Crittenden. If Potter cannot securely fill this gap, that portion of Willcox's division required for this purpose should be sent over.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

I am having a telegraph [line] extended to you.

G. G. M.

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 25, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Is Willcox intrenched in front of Ox Ford? If not he should be so as to hold the crossing with a minimum force.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

General Willcox is strongly intrenched in front of Ox Ford, with artillery in position. Major Morton is now laying out additional rifle-pits near the ford, and I will have changes made, if possible, with a view to holding the position with a less force. Willcox has not over 3,000 men for duty.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Ox Ford, Va., May 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. THOMAS WILSON,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Army of the Potomac:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following statement in answer to verbal interrogations made by you this p. m.:

The number of men in the corps to be subsisted is 22,199. The corps is in four divisions. The First Division has three brigades. The Second, Third, and Fourth Divisions have each two brigades and all are numerically designated. The names of the commissaries are given in the list inclosed. The number of wagons assigned to the several division commissaries for the forwarding of supplies are as follows: First Division, 30; Second Division, 25; Third Division, 40; Fourth Division, 23. There are in the general corps herd of beef-cattle, 312 head. In the division herds as follows: First Division, 110 head; Second Division, 52 head; Third Division, 75 head; Fourth Division, 121 head.

There are not now at the front, or in the wagon trains of the corps any wagons filled with supplies. Yesterday noon twenty-three wagons of the Fourth Division left near Milford Station for Port Royal. This morning forty left for the same depot from the Third Division. As soon as they shall arrive I will notify you. I have directed generally that the division commissaries, having assigned to them certain numbers of wagons, shall direct the movements of such trains to and from the depots, and that they shall be looked to by their commanding officers and by the department for a prompt and complete provisioning of their several commands. I have required the presence of the brigade commissaries invariably with the troops. The troops are rationed up to the 1st day of June, inclusive.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. R. GOODRICH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Commissary of Subsistence.

[Inclosure.]

List of officers on duty in the subsistence department in the Ninth Army Corps.

Stationed in the field. Accountable for funds, stores, and property.

Names.	Rank.	Regiment.	Brigade.	Division.
J. Justice	First lieutenant	100th Pennsylvania.		First Division.
John N. King	Captain and commissary of subsistence.			Second Division.
Samuel Fessenden	First lieutenant	7th Rhode Island	First Brigade	Do.
John H. Varney	....do	6th New Hampshire.	Second Brigade.	Do.
John H. Coale	Lieutenant-colonel and commissary of subsistence.			Third Division.
R. D. Johnston	Captain	2d Michigan	First Brigade	Do.
A. Jones	First lieutenant	50th Pennsylvania.	Second Brigade.	Do.
D. S. Tompkins	....do	27th Michigan	Headquarters command.	Do.
Asa Gregory	Captain and commissary of subsistence.			Fourth Division.
E. F. Emory	First lieutenant	36th Massachusetts.	First Brigade	Do.
B. H. Stiles	....do	23d U. S. Colored	Second Brigade.	Do.
Parker D. Boyd	Captain and commissary of subsistence.			
W. Harrison French	....do			Headquarters issuing commissary.

Respectfully submitted.

E. R. GOODRICH,
Lieut. Col. and Chief Com. of Sub., 9th Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Ox Ford, Va., May 25, 1864.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 25, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Colonel WILSON,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Army of the Potomac:

Lieutenant Justice, commissary of the First Division, has a train load of supplies of some 50,000 rations at a point some 9 miles from here, and this side of Milford. These supplies are very necessary to this command, and I understand Captain Peirce refuses to allow this train to pass over the road. Can such supplies, with cattle as we have at or near Milford, be allowed to come up? Colonel Goodrich, chief commissary of subsistence of this corps, is now at Port Royal and cannot report in person. An order has been sent to him to report at these headquarters.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
In Camp, May 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

I learned just now that General Warren was very near me. I have just sent word by Colonel Bankhead, of his staff, that I was to

get orders from him, and that though his senior, I would obey him cheerfully. I do not think that I ought to be placed in this position. General Ledlie is here to command the division if I should be ordered away. The First Brigade lost about 150 killed and wounded, and about 300 missing. They behaved gallantly, and are in good spirits though they suffered so severely,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. L. CRITTENDEN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
North Anna River, May 25, 1864.

General T. L. CRITTENDEN:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your note of this morning was received on the road, and now that I have returned, I hasten to answer. I fully appreciate your feelings in the matter to which you refer, but under all the circumstances I would as a friend advise you to remain where you are. If you wish, I will ask General Grant to relieve you, but really think it would be a mistake. You know I would not advise you to do anything that would not, in my opinion, result in good to you. Please answer by this orderly.

Yours, very truly,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Camp on Pole-Cat Creek, May 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to notify you that I found my train at this place; the trains of the army were a short distance in rear. I therefore went into camp here. One division of my command is camped on the right flank, one on the left flank of the trains, and the other in front. About seven-eighths of the horses of the corps are in good working condition; six-eighths of the above number are in as good if not better condition than when I started on my expedition. This is a minimum estimate. I think that two or three days will put them all in good order. I turned in at Haxall's Landing 341 horses unfit to make the return trip. My total loss in horses will not exceed 400, including killed in battle and abandoned on the road shot. But few animals were obtained in the country. My losses in killed and wounded from the 9th to the 25th of May are as follows, viz: Total killed, 46. Wounded: Saved, sent to general hospital from Haxall's Landing and White House, 210; very slight and returned to duty, 75; mortally, left in farm-houses on road, 40; badly, and captured by the enemy, 54; total, 379.* The 210 wounded sent to general hospital were transported in a captured train of rebel ambulances and ordnance wagons and the ordnance wagons of the corps.

The officers and men of the corps are in excellent spirits.

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*For revised return of casualties during Sheridan's first expedition, see Part I, p. 184.

I have on hand and ready for issue seven days' rations of subsistence for the men of the corps and a little less than one day's forage for the horses. My empty wagons should be permitted to go back for forage at once.

I would be pleased to call in person upon the major-general commanding if he will grant the permission.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—My total loss in captured by the enemy is between 75 and 80.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General.

FREDERICKSBURG, *May* 25, 1864.
(Received 11.25 a. m.)

Major-General HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

I have just returned from Belle Plain and Aquia. Everything is away from Belle Plain. The guard left there this morning for the new line of telegraph. The wounded and sick are being sent away rapidly, and I think everything will be away from here to-morrow morning. The horses for Belle Plain arrived too late, and as there were no men to send across with them, and no forage to take them to Port Royal by water, I sent them back.

C. C. AUGUR,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Conway, Va., May 25, 1864—1.30 p. m.
(Received 2.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Just arrived. Left Belle Plain, Va., 2.20 on 24th, after arranging with Captain Pitkin to have boats for the wounded at Aquia Creek. Everything has been shipped from Belle Plain. A guard and two gun-boats were left at Aquia and along the railroad until the stock is taken off. A sufficient guard has been left on the north side of the Rappahannock from Pope's Point to Port Royal of cavalry and infantry. I sent, while en route to Fredericksburg, one battery and two squadrons cavalry, all that could be spared. One gun-boat has gone to Fredericksburg, also three boats for wounded. As no bridge can be made from here across to Port Royal I am going to raft the troops across almost immediately. Now are lying here four steamboats and one gun-boat. One hundred men as provost guard have arrived. My headquarters here (Port Conway), where the telegraph line ends. As soon as it is taken over I will go too. A train of wagons have just arrived from the front and are parked near Port Royal.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA.,
May 25, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE:

I have your telegram of 9.15 p. m. I assume the 80 wounded men at the Second Corps hospital, in the Wilderness, are the only ones

that it is intended shall be removed, because to receive the 500 at the two different hospitals at Parker's Store and Robertson's Tavern, would demand a very large and mixed force and upward of 200 ambulances. There are but thirty here now, if I am correct. The force here I should think sufficient if the Twenty-second New York Cavalry were reliable. Not being so, an additional force of cavalry is wanted. I say cavalry, because to make the trip in one day, which is most desirable, infantry cannot be sent as the distance back is 32 miles. Dr. Breneman, who has been out several times, thinks cavaly alone will do. As the ambulances will have to work till 5 o'clock to-morrow morning, it will be impossible to set out till the 26th instant.

E. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General, Commanding.

PORT ROYAL, VA., *May* 25, 1864.
(Received 10.39 a. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

I do not see how I can spare the Eighth Illinois Cavalry detachment. The officers are all very well acquainted with the country, and they are now taking care of the telegraph communication between this place and Pope's Point, a distance of 14 miles. I would rather send twice as many of any other troops.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[MAY 25, 1864.—For Butler to Stanton (7.30 and 11 a. m.), reporting attack on post at Wilson's Wharf, see Part II, p. 269.]

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 25—11.30 a. m.
(Via Fort Monroe. Received 9 a. m. 26th.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I most earnestly request that 3,000 Spencer rifles, with appropriate ammunition, be forwarded to this command. I think it would be more than equivalent to re-enforcing us with that number of men. I will only give them to tried and deserving regiments, and they shall be the prize of gallantry and good behavior.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 25, 1864—1.26 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Point Lookout, Md.:

A regiment of Veteran Reserves will leave here to-morrow to relieve the Fifth New Hampshire, which will be sent to Port Royal, and thence to General Grant's army, in the field.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 25, 1864—2.30 p. m.
(Received 4.50 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

There is confusion in the command here. No officer of sufficient rank appears to have command at Fort Monroe, and the quartermaster, Lieutenant-Colonel Biggs, seems to be practically exercising the command. If General Gillmore is withdrawn from Bermuda Hundred this fort, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Yorktown, Williamsburg, Gloucester Point, and their dependencies, would constitute a district, the immediate command of which, subordinate to General Butler's general command of the department, would fully occupy him.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.
J. G. BARNARD,
Chief Engineer.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 25, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

The general commanding wishes you to send a staff officer to these headquarters to get the time here, so that the time throughout the department may agree.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, May 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that, in addition to the daily detail for the new redoubt in front of Battery No. 3, you furnish a detail for work there, this night only, of the same strength as the daily detail. This has become necessary on account of the damage inflicted by the enemy's sharpshooters.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Engineers.

[Indorsement.]

Direct Colonel Serrell to detail 5 engineers, and Turner and Ames 200 men, to report at 7 p. m. to Lieutenant Parsons. Detail 100 men from Ames and 100 men from Turner.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12. HDQRS. 2D DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 25, 1864.

Hereafter when in camp for over two days brigade commanders will establish a brigade guard around their respective camps, and

whether on the march or in camp will detail daily a brigade field officer of the day, who will report for instruction to the brigade commanders and general officer of the day, when one is detailed, immediately after reaching camp or at sunset. Brigade guards will be mounted just before sunset. Regimental or police guards, with regimental officer of the day, will be continued as heretofore in each regiment. The guard will be the minimum number for proper police and guard of the regiment, but generally when on the march or maneuvering in the presence of the enemy, the outpost guard taking the place of the brigade guard, the regimental guard will be increased, so as to insure a vigilant watch and police. Field officers of the day, regimental officers of the day, commandants of regiments and companies, are particularly referred to the instructions laid down in "Butterfield's Camp and Outpost Duty," commencing at Article IX, page 51, and continuing to Article XVI, page 68. It is expected that these officers will be thoroughly conversant and put in practice, so far as circumstances will allow, everything therein contained. The general officer of the day will report to the general commanding the division immediately after arriving in camp or an hour before sunset.

By order of Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES, *Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: I have just received a report from the officer in command of the pickets of this division that the enemy are at work upon a new battery near Ware Bottom Church, which is so placed as to enfilade that portion of the picket-line in your front, and would suggest that some traverses be thrown up immediately for the protection of your pickets, as the work was commenced early this morning.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 25, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

There is a picket about a mile down the road that stops all officers, including our staff, going to the landing. As it is reported that it is done under your orders, the general commanding wishes me to ask if it is so, and what are the orders.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 25, 1864.

General WEITZEL:

Will you please suggest to General Butler to have a staff officer from each corps report daily at his headquarters for any instructions

that he may have to give daily? I think some 20 or 30 pounder Parrotts should be put in Hinks' fort at once, particularly if the bridge is ready to be thrown over, as we could then protect them, and they would completely sweep my left flank across the ravine and cover any movement in that direction.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

SMITH'S, *May* 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

A reconnaissance by Colonel Dutton, for nearly a mile across the ravine in front of General Brooks, found not even a cavalry picket. I have ordered General Martindale to feel very delicately at daylight until he comes up to infantry pickets. Perhaps the enemy may be found in much less force in front of the Tenth Corps. I have been hard at work at the bridge across to Port Walthall, and shall be ready by the time Martindale comes in to throw over any amount of troops (so far as roadway is concerned) to make an advance, if you should deem it advisable. I can see nothing of works in my front, either from Port Walthall or from Colonel Duncan's position, which I visited this p. m., for the purpose of finding out if anything was visible there.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 25, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

The commanding general directs that inasmuch as the necessity that caused the dismounting of Cole's cavalry no longer exists, that you order the men back to their regiment to-morrow.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

MAY 25, 1864. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

Colonel COLE,
City Point, Va.:

You will report with your whole command at your old camp. Steamer Johnson will be sent for you to-morrow at daylight. You will have to make several trips.

By command of Major-General Smith:

N. BOWEN.

MAY 25, 1864.

General MARTINDALE,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you order a section of Belger's battery to cover the causeway over the ravine. The battery will be finished to-morrow. The other section and Regan's

battery you will place in position to sweep up the ravine and over the dam, placing them on the bluff on our left flank in front of Fort Wisconsin or that vicinity. Put this artillery in position to-morrow morning.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 25, 1864.

General MARTINDALE,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you send out by daylight precisely, two reconnoitering parties to feel the enemy's pickets and find out where they are. One to go on this side of the ravine in the road to the mill, and the other on the opposite side of the same ravine toward the same mill. You will send your most intelligent officers. Colonel Dutton has just returned and reports no signs of the enemy. He swept about half or three-fourths of a mile along the opposite side of the ravine to the road leading to the mill. Please report as soon as possible the result.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
City Point, Va., May 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. A. WILD,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general commanding to instruct you, upon the arrival of Captain Schwartz's squadron of cavalry, to order the Thirty-seventh Regiment, U. S. Colored Troops, to report to Colonel Kiddoo, at Fort Powhatan, and to adopt measures to forward all detachments belonging to organizations that do not belong to your command now at your station to their proper post at once.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 25, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: Several officers of the Fifth Rhode Island Artillery have been to me to state that Colonel Sisson, of that regiment, had induced, under false representation, several officers to sign a paper, the general tone of which was to injure me. These papers were all withdrawn by the officers, who express deep regret at the manner in which they were deceived, and Colonel Sisson has also been to me to state that he deeply regrets the action he took in the matter, that

he did it at a time when he fancied that he had been ill-treated, &c., and he desired me to overlook the matter. I conceive, however, that the person who could meditate the grievous wrong intended to me is entitled to little of my confidence, and as I had heard that he had stated that he intended the (withdrawn) statements to be presented to you, I have thought it proper to make this statement, and to beg of you to give me copies of any statements that he may have made, directly or indirectly, to you in regard to myself.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Quarles' Mills, Va., May 26, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

GENERAL: The relative position of the two armies is now as follows: Lee's right rests on a swamp east of the Richmond and Fredericksburg road and south of North Anna, his center on the river at Ox Ford, and his left on Little River, with the crossings of Little River guarded as far up as we have gone. Hancock, with his corps and one division of the Ninth Corps, crossed at Chesterfield Ford, and covers the right wing of Lee's army. One division of the Ninth Corps is on the north bank of the Anna at Ox Ford, with bridges above and below at points nearest to it, where both banks are held by us, so that it could re-enforce either wing of our army with equal facility. The Fifth and Sixth Corps, with one division of the Ninth Corps, run from the south bank of the Anna from a short distance above Ox Ford to Little River and parallel with and near to the enemy. To make a direct attack from either wing would cause a slaughter of our men that even success would not justify. To turn the enemy by his right, between the two Annas, is impossible on account of the swamp upon which his right rests. To turn him by his left leaves Little River, New Found River, and South Anna River, all of them streams presenting considerable obstacles to the movement of an army, to be crossed. I have determined, therefore, to turn the enemy's right by crossing at or near Hanovertown. This crosses all these streams at once, and leaves us still where we can draw supplies. During the night last night the teams and artillery, not in position, belonging to the right wing of our army, and one division of that wing were quietly withdrawn to the north bank of the river and moved down to the rear of the left. As soon as it is dark this division, with most of the cavalry, will commence a forced march for Hanovertown to seize and hold the crossing. The balance of the right wing will withdraw at the same hour and follow as rapidly as possible. The left wing will also withdraw from the south bank of the river to-night and follow in rear of the right wing. Lee's army is really whipped. The prisoners we now take show it, and the action of his army shows it unmistakably. A battle with them outside of intrenchments cannot be had. Our men feel that they have gained the morale over the enemy and attack with confidence. I may be mistaken, but I feel that our success over Lee's army is already insured. The promptness and rapidity

with which you have forwarded re-enforcements have contributed largely to the feeling of confidence inspired in our men and to break down that of the enemy.

We are destroying all the rails we can on the Central and Fredericksburg roads. I want to leave a gap in the roads north of Richmond so big that to get a single track they will have to import rails from elsewhere.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—Even if a crossing is not effected at Hanovertown it will probably be necessary for us to move on down the Pamunkey until a crossing is effected. I think it advisable, therefore, to change our base of supplies from Port Royal to the White House. I wish you would direct this change at once, and also direct Smith to put the railroad bridge there in condition for crossing troops and artillery, and leave men to hold it.

U. S. G.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 26, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

Your instructions of yesterday 12 m. have been sent to General Butler and General Hunter. I hope to send you some 4,000 or 5,000 re-enforcements to Port Royal to-day and to-morrow. We are somewhat embarrassed for want of water transportation while moving Smith's command. Nothing recently from Sherman.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Would it not be well in view of our contemplated movement to direct General Smith, at the White House, to repair and put in order for the passage of troops the railroad bridge at that point? Also, make some arrangements for the transfer of our depot from Port Royal to that place. I send you a dispatch just received.

Respectfully,

GEORGE G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

I will direct Smith as you suggest to secure us a crossing at the railroad bridge, White House, and also have our depot moved to that place.

U. S. G.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—2 p. m. (Received 11 p. m.)

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army:

A further movement will be made to-night. The last of our wagons will be sent to Port Royal to-morrow to load up with stores and follow us. That depot should then be abandoned, and supplies sent at once up the Pamunkey. If the draw in the railroad bridge at White House is not closed up, light-draught vessels can ascend to points near, if not on, our line of march. They can at least be held in readiness at White House. Captain Pitkin and his assistants now at Port Royal should have charge. I shall give detailed instructions to him. The subsistence and medical departments should transfer to the new depot at the same time.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Quarles' Mills, May 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that a train of 450 wagons left Milford at 12 m. yesterday with wounded for Port Royal, to return laden with subsistence and forage. I desire to organize and start another train of empty wagons for the same point to-morrow at 8 a. m., and I have to request that the different commands may be notified, so that the proper officers may be detailed to accompany the wagons to attend to the drawing of such subsistence stores and supplies of ammunition as may be required. I have also to request that an escort of 500 cavalry be detailed to accompany this train for its proper protection, and that the commanding officer be directed to report to the chief quartermaster at Wright's Tavern.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

P. S.—If the cavalry train is ordered to leave to-day, the other trains can also be got ready to follow.

R. I.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Among prisoners just brought in we have a deserter from the Twenty-sixth Virginia Battalion, Echols' brigade; left his command day before yesterday a. m. in camp at Hanover Court-House, where they had just arrived from Hanover Junction. Belongs to Breckinridge's force. Says they left the valley about the 18th, took cars at Staunton about the 20th, and got off at Hanover Junction. Three brigades in Breckinridge's command, Wharton's, Imbo-

den's, and Echols'. Two batteries and one regiment of his brigade which has always been with Sam. Jones at Greenbrier. Thinks his brigade is about 1,000 strong, the other two about the same. Breckinridge is there personally. Don't know whether anything is left in the valley or not.

We have also prisoners taken day before yesterday on the skirmish line from Ewell's corps, which they say is on the right of Longstreet, Rodes' division being on the extreme right of their line; on that part they have two lines of battle. A South Carolina man returning from furlough left Richmond on Monday in a long train filled with men returning to different regiments, but no organized commands. Before he left Columbia, S. C., about a week ago, Aiken's brigade of cavalry was ordered to Richmond; one-half being sent forward with their horses and the others given ten days' furlough to get horses, and to report mounted at Richmond.

Respectfully,

G. H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.,

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 145. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *May* 26, 1864—9.15 a. m.

1. Corps and other independent commanders will at once send to their supply trains for four days' rations, and cause the same to be issued before to-night, so that the troops will have to-morrow morning six days' subsistence on their persons. The supply trains are near Milford.

2. A train of empty wagons will leave Milford at 8 a. m. to-morrow for Port Royal, there to be loaded with supplies for this army. Corps commanders will detail proper officers to accompany this train for the purpose of attending to the drawing of such subsistence stores and supplies of ammunition as may be required for their respective commands. The commander of the Cavalry Corps will detail 500 men as an escort for the train, and the commander of the detachment will report to the chief quartermaster at Wright's Tavern at 8 a. m. to-morrow.

3. The wounded men with this army and such of the seriously sick as the corps medical directors may specially authorize, will be sent in the course of to-day to the general supply train near Milford, to proceed thence to-morrow morning to Port Royal in the train of empty wagons already ordered to leave Milford at 8 a. m. to-morrow. Corps commanders will provide the necessary medical attendance for their wounded and sick to be sent, and will cause three days' rations to be supplied, cooked, if possible. It is believed that the wagons which will be emptied to-day by issues of subsistence, will be sufficient to convey the wounded and sick to be sent, and will be so employed.

* * * * * * *

5. The following-mentioned regiments, composing the command brought to this army by Brig. Gen. H. H. Lockwood, are assigned to the Fifth Army Corps, viz, Forty-sixth New York Volunteers, Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Veteran Volunteers, Purnell Legion Maryland Volunteers, Ninety-fourth New York Volunteers, and Third Delaware Volunteers. The commander of the Fifth Corps will organize a division to be commanded by General Lockwood,

and to be composed of the above-mentioned regiments, the Maryland regiments now with the Fifth Corps, and any other troops that the corps commander can assign to the division. Brigadier-General Lockwood will report to the commander of the Fifth Corps for instructions. The One hundred and eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, also brought to the army by Brigadier-General Lockwood, will join the Second Brigade, Second Division, Second Corps, that being the command to which it belongs.

6. The commanding general has learned that in some instances wagons originally set apart for the transportation of ammunition have been appropriated to other purposes. This is strictly prohibited, and wagons originally designed for ammunition must be used exclusively for that object, and will be kept loaded to their maximum capacity, although the amount of ammunition thus carried may exceed the present ammunition allowance. It cannot be foreseen at what moment the arrival of new troops, or other cause, may call for all the ammunition that it is possible to carry in the ammunition wagons.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Corps commanders will at once send to their supply trains for four days' rations for their respective commands, and cause the same to be issued before to-night, so that the troops will have to-morrow morning six days' subsistence on their persons. The supply trains are near Milford.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Quarles' Mills, Va., May 26, 1864.

A train of empty wagons will be made up to-morrow in the vicinity of Milford, near Wright's Tavern, to leave that point at 8 a. m. to-morrow for Port Royal for supplies. All empty wagons of your command will be sent to the place of rendezvous in time to leave the point named at the time stated. Such of them as are at the front, which may be required to carry sick or wounded to the rear, will be turned over to the medical director of the corps, with the proviso, however, that they be sent to the place of rendezvous to-day. This will be the last opportunity of sending to Port Royal, and every empty wagon must be made use of. All the loaded wagons at the front and with the general supply train will be held in readiness for a movement on short notice.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—10 a. m.

The following movements are ordered :

1. The Sixth Corps will be withdrawn at dark by Jericho Bridge, and follow the route of Russell's division, via Chesterfield Station, to Hanovertown, taking the road nearest the Pamunkey River. The train of the corps will join it at Chesterfield Station.

2. The Fifth Corps will be withdrawn at dark by Quarles' Ford Bridge, and pass, via Old Chesterfield, to New Castle Ferry, on the Pamunkey, below Hanovertown, by roads to be examined to-day by the engineers, and respecting which further instructions will be given. The route of the Fifth Corps will be to the northward and eastward of the route of the Sixth Corps. The wooden pontoons forming Jericho Bridge, and as many others as are available, will accompany the Fifth Corps. Should there be any surplus canvas pontoons with the cavalry at Hanovertown crossing, they may be obtained for the use of the Fifth Corps, if required for the bridge at New Castle.

3. Crittenden's division, of the Ninth Corps, will be withdrawn at dark. The Ninth Corps will hold the fords and crossings from Ox Ford to Jericho Mills.

4. The Second Corps and Willcox's division, of the Ninth Corps, will be withdrawn at an hour to be hereafter indicated. The Second Corps will hold the fords and crossings below Ox Ford.

5. When the roads taken by the Fifth and Sixth Corps are clear, the Ninth Corps will follow the Fifth Corps to New Castle Ferry, and the Second Corps will follow the Sixth Corps to Hanovertown. The withdrawal of these two corps from the river and their movements by the route indicated will be simultaneous. The corps commanders will act in concert. As soon as it can be done without interfering with the trains and movements of the Fifth and Sixth Corps, the trains and surplus artillery of the Ninth and Second Corps will be moved to the roads these corps will take. All bridges will be removed when the troops recross to the north bank of the North Anna.

6. The division of cavalry on the right will hold the various fords and bridges as they are successively abandoned from Butler's Ford down and cover the rear of the army.

7. Headquarters will be during the movement on the route of the Sixth and Second Corps.

8. The supply and other main trains of the army will be moved to-night by Bowling Green, along the north or east bank of the Mattapony to Dunkirk or that vicinity, and thence to Hanovertown. A pontoon train will accompany them.

By command of Major-General Meade :

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—12.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK :

The commanding general desires that you will order such of the cavalry temporarily with you as you can spare to report to the Cavalry Corps early this day. The Cavalry Corps is encamped on Pole Cat Creek, on the road passed over by your corps.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—7.50 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I found accidentally this morning that my canvas bridge train was being taken up by order of Major Duane. I telegraphed to the major last night that I would spare these bridges as fast as the pontoons came to replace them. I do not think it prudent to take these bridges up until the others are on the ground, and have therefore ordered them to remain.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your dispatch of 7.50 a. m. received. The commanding general directs that one of your bridges be immediately taken up. It is expected that it will soon be replaced by another pontoon bridge, but meanwhile the general desires you to proceed to make a wooden bridge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: Your dispatch is received. I will have the bridge taken up. I did not wish my bridges removed without my knowledge.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—8.45 a. m. (Received 8.50 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Can you withdraw your command with security by daylight?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—9.15 a. m.

General MEADE:

GENERAL: My command has been pushed so close to the enemy that I doubt whether it can safely be withdrawn by day. My artillery is on the front line, and the rain has made the lowlands next the river very heavy. The main bridge on Telegraph road is in an exposed position. The approaches to the other bridges I am about having worked. I could withdraw a portion of the infantry in case of ne-

cessity, but the risk would be considerable. For instance, General Gibbon has part of his front line about 200 yards from the enemy's skirmishers, and General Birney's position is in full view of the enemy.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your telegram of 9.15 a. m. will render it necessary you should withdraw to-night as soon after dark as practicable. Burnside will be directed to withdraw Potter. You will arrange with him as to the order of withdrawing. Burnside will be directed to hold the fords from Ox Ford to Jericho Bridge. You will hold them below. A wooden boat bridge will be thrown in place of the canvas boat taken away as soon as the wooden boats can be brought up, which will be before night. Make all your arrangements preparatory to receiving these orders.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Army Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you destroy as far back as practicable the Fredericksburg railroad, and that you make such use as you can of the mortars to-day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

General Barlow has been working night and day on the railroad toward Milford. All the men have been employed that we had tools for. The musketry fire you may have heard proceeded from General Potter advancing his pickets in order to prevent any impertinent curiosity.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw to-night in the manner indicated in previous orders, as soon as it can be done

without attracting the attention of the enemy. The pickets will be left as long as practicable consistently with their being withdrawn to this side, the pontoon bridges taken up, and other bridges destroyed by daylight.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding directs that corps commanders report from time to time their progress in the operations and movements ordered for to-night and following. They will report when their corps have recrossed the river and when they are well on the routes of march. The commander of the Sixth Corps will report when the rear of his corps passed Chesterfield Station, and the commander of the Fifth Corps when his rear passed Old Chesterfield.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Burnside, Warren, and Wright.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: At what hour do you propose to withdraw your skirmish line?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 26, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General BURNSIDE:

Not before 2 o'clock. When my troops are across I will let you know. I have my corps officers at headquarters to designate the time. I shall picket the river when I do come across.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 26, 1864—10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Our movement has been somewhat delayed by issuing rations, and by a little fight that Gibbon had this evening in driving away the enemy's skirmishers, and by delay in constructing a foot bridge, which it was at last found impossible to effect on account of the rapidity of the stream, reducing our number of bridges from four to three. But everything is going on well at this moment. General Potter's division will be relieved before the others and sent home.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 26, 1864—1.05 p. m.

Division commanders must see that the enemy's skirmishers are kept back at a proper distance. At night-fall to-day the enemy's line of pickets must be in a position well pushed back from our line, even if it takes an advance of troops to do it. Division commanders may accomplish this in their own time and way if any change is required.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to commanding officer First Division, Ninth Army Corps.)

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—6 p. m.

Division commanders will collect all intrenching tools in the hands of their troops or on their lines before dark this evening, have them put in the wagons, and see that the wagons are taken along with the column. Also every commander is requested, if any of the intrenchments are so constructed on the enemy's side of the river as to bear upon us, to have them impaired, so that they cannot be used with advantage against us.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—7 p. m.

The following movements are ordered for to-night: At dark all the wagons belonging to the command, except the spring wagons for headquarters, all the ambulances, except ten for each division, and all the batteries, except two for each division, will form a train to move to Chesterfield by the road crossing the railroad in rear of the left of the line held by the command before crossing the river. At 8.30 p. m. each division commander will commence the withrawal of his command, including two batteries to be assigned by the chief of artillery. The Second Division and its artillery will withdraw by the lower pontoon bridge; the First Division by the foot bridge just above, its artillery crossing the pontoon bridge; the Third Division with its artillery will withdraw by the upper pontoon bridge. Each division will mass, after its crossing, in a position to be indicated by a staff officer from these headquarters.

The order of march will be as follows: Second Division, First Division, Third Division, Fourth Division. The regiments of heavy artillery now attached to other divisions will remain with them during the march. The two regiments now on this side of the river will hold the rifle-pits opposite the wooden bridge until the command moves, when they will form the rear guard. The hour of march for the Second Division after the crossing will be indicated hereafter. The pickets will be withdrawn under the

direction of the corps officer of the day, to whom division officers of the day will report, those of the First and Second Divisions crossing the foot bridge below the railroad, and those of the other divisions by the bridge over the Telegraph road.

General Barlow will cover the withdrawal of the lower pontoon bridge and General Birney that of the upper one. As soon as these bridges are withdrawn, they will join the train on the Chesterfield road, which will proceed to Chesterfield under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Batchelder and follow in rear of the Sixth Corps from that point. General Barlow will take effective measures for the destruction of the lower foot bridge when the pickets have crossed, and General Birney the same for the bridge on the Telegraph road. Each division commander will be responsible for the preservation of his own bridge until his command has passed the river. General Birney will relieve General Potter's line as General Potter vacates it, in order to cover the Telegraph road until his own division is withdrawn, and General Potter will report to General Burnside. His pickets will remain until relieved by order of the corps officer of the day.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 26, 1864—8.30 p. m.

The following change in the order for recrossing the river is rendered necessary by the rise in the river: Two brigades of the First Division are to follow the Second across the lower pontoon bridge, two brigades of the First Division to precede the Third Division across the upper bridge, these brigades to join and mass with those crossing the lower bridge. The pickets of the First and Second Divisions will cross on the lower pontoon bridge. Only the upper pontoon bridge will be taken up before the pickets are withdrawn.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Division commanders will notify these headquarters frequently and with great dispatch of their progress in crossing their divisions, and will report when the last of their commands have crossed. The first point is to cross the river and get the troops on the high ground, massed, and to be particular to protect the bridges until they are taken up. The artillery of divisions might proceed at once to certain points designated by division commanders, and if there is any difficulty in crossing, had better mass at points behind the left of their old positions, as it is not probable that we shall move away from these positions before daylight. Fires should be lighted and kept up on both ends, and at the approaches of all the bridges.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864.

Until the different commands have crossed the river, division commanders are requested to make their headquarters near the bridges they are to cross.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 26, 1864—2 p. m. (Received 3.10 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state in answer to your communication of this date that I have as large a force employed on the railroad as we have tools for. They are destroying the ties by burning and are bending the rails. We are pushing the work as far toward Milford Station as possible. I have worked day and night since the order was received yesterday. My pickets are advanced sufficiently to enable my line to withdraw or move to-night without being seen, and I will have a strong enough force on the picket-line to check any impertinent curiosity of the enemy. In regard to Colonel Brooke's application to Colonel Smith about rations, I have the honor to state that it was entirely without warrant and shall not again occur.

I have the honor to be, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—I have the honor to inclose the statement* of Colonel Brooke, from which it appears that he did not send an officer to Colonel Smith for the purpose within indicated.

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 26, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: In reply to note from corps headquarters of last evening, I have the honor to report that the cavalry made no discoveries at all. They went but a short distance beyond our picket-line, when they were fired upon by the enemy from the breast-work opposite the left of our line, when they returned.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 26, 1864—12.45 a. m.

[Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER ? :]

COLONEL : I reported in regard to the cavalry that they had made no discoveries. They can be dispensed with, and I have directed the commander to report to headquarters with his command at once.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 26, 1864—4.15 p. m.

General BIRNEY :

The general wishes to know the cause of that firing.

TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

GENERAL BIRNEY'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 26, 1864—4.15 p. m.

General HANCOCK :

The cause of the firing is our pickets advancing on General Potter's line.

BIRNEY,
General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Division :

GENERAL : The major-general commanding directs me to say that if your bridge requires any rifle-pits to protect a recrossing, he desires that you will look into the matter. He also desires that you will take such action as will prepare boughs, as you suggested, for the upper bridge, to be put on after dark, in order to facilitate the quiet movement of General Potter's infantry, should he cross at that bridge. That bridge will be destroyed behind us. The pickets will be relieved by the corps officers of the day in time to get them across the river by daylight. Orders will issue before night concerning the movement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The destruction of the upper bridge should be the last thing—if possible delayed till near daylight.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864. (Received 6.30 a. m.)

Major-General WARREN:

A division of cavalry is ordered to make a demonstration upon the enemy's left flank on Little River to-day, crossing at Butler's Ford.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copy to Wright and Burnside.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The May and June rainy season has, I believe, begun, and we must take it into account in our future plans. I have with me the records of three previous years' campaign. The first at Fort Monroe, under General Butler. It began then June 3, and lasted all through July. The rains were heavier than I have seen, perfectly flooding the level country. The second on the Chickahominy. This spring was a very rainy one, but the heavy periodical summer showers set in in earnest about May 25; streams all flooded May 26 and 27; Chickahominy a perfect lake on June 2, resulting in a fatal delay in our movements. Rains ceased about June 10, I believe, to annoy us. The third, campaign of Gettysburg. Heavy rains began later in that latitude. At their height at the time of Lee's retreat. Potomac impassable, canal broken, railroad washed away between Washington and Baltimore. I have no doubt past records will show that these rains are as certain as the tides. Much should be allowed for them now.

The information General Meade had that the enemy attacked Crittenden was all wrong. He attacked them with one brigade, and with most gratifying success, till he ran against the enemy's intrenchments. The map issued from the Engineer Department is so erroneous as to give a most incorrect idea of the enemy's position. I inclose you a sketch* which is correct, [showing] the side of the enemy's lines, and has the position of the Chesterfield bridge and Fredericksburg railroad correct, as taken from Paine's sketch. From it the enemy's front on the river is not very salient.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

Major-General Warren directs me to inform you that it will be 6 p. m. before the supply train can reach here so as to issue rations to the troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. M. MORGAN,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—12 m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I had word sent to you that our train, which would issue supplies, might not reach here in time. Of course, every effort will be made to comply, but if the wagons should fail to reach in time, they will probably be much in the way of the proposed movement of troops. I see the Sixth Corps is ordered to Hanovertown. When I was there in 1862 there was not a house at the place, and only a ferry. At Mrs. Hundley's was a good bridge, which I then destroyed. Crump's Swamp should be creek; there is no swamp there that I know of. I send you a map that Major Duane sent me, with the topography near Hanovertown indicated.

The tracing I sent you is the only correct one I can make of it or this vicinity, as it is too erroneous to admit of anything being changed satisfactorily. I tried it. I think the enemy's infantry will beat us in reaching the place you have indicated to General Wright and myself to cross the Pamunkey. General Wright will have a march of not less than 30 miles I think. The enemy will be able to make the distance from the Junction to Old Church in one march. I marched from Hanover Court-House to Ashland and back to the Court-House, and from the Court-House to Old Church, from 6 a. m. to 12 p. m.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 26, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

I am instructed by the commanding general to say that if your train with the four days' rations, ordered to be issued to-day, is at all late in coming up, you can have it halted at such point on this side of the river as you may designate, and issue the rations when your corps reaches said point.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding desires to know if the train of your corps, ordered to cross to the north side of the river last night, as well as the surplus artillery, have crossed yet.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 26, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

My trains I believe have all been over for some time. General Wright's did not all get across till daylight, and then the damaging

of the bridge delayed us. How long am I to leave my bridge at Jericho Ford down? Will the cavalry want it? I suppose not if the other bridges are not washed away. I think the Pamunkey is about 150 feet wide at Mrs. Hundley's and Hanover Ferry, and probably the same at New Castle Ferry. The stream is deep, and flows through a wide bottom, which, however, is quite high above the stream.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

The Fifth Corps will be withdrawn at dark by Quarles' Ford bridge and pass via Old Chesterfield, &c. The order indicating route, &c., will be sent you immediately. General Burnside is directed to withdraw Crittenden's division at the same time, after consultation with you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

Should the rise of the river remove the bridge at Quarles' Ford the withdrawal of the troops of the right wing to-night will be made at Jericho Mills bridge and in the following order: The Sixth Corps will cross first; the Fifth Corps will follow the Sixth Corps; Crittenden's division will follow the Fifth Corps. In the contingency contemplated Major-General Warren will direct the crossing.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Wright and Burnside.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your pontoon bridge at Jericho Mills will be taken up as soon as your troops cross. The cavalry will not use it in recrossing. You will leave your pickets out as long as practicable consistently with their being able to join your rear guard on the march. General Hancock is directed to withdraw to-night as soon as he can do so without attracting the attention of the enemy, and to leave his pickets as long as practicable consistently with their being withdrawn; the pontoon bridges taken up, and the other bridges destroyed by daylight. General Burnside is directed to withdraw his two divisions to this side, in the manner indicated in previous

orders, as soon as it can be done without attracting the attention of the enemy, and to withdraw the pickets of the two divisions at the same time as the pickets of the troops they are connected with are withdrawn. He is directed to destroy the bridge at Quarles' Mills, and others of similar kind on his front as soon as the troops are over.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—6.40 p. m.

General WARREN:

The commanding general instructs me to say that you will withdraw after the Sixth Corps. The Sixth Corps will have precedence over the Fifth in bridges and roads. There is a double road from Mount Carmel Church to Old Chesterfield. At the latter point the routes of the Fifth and Sixth Corps diverge. It was expected that the engineer parties would return in time to furnish details of the routes farther on before the Fifth Corps had fairly started. Let me know if you must use the bridge at Quarles' Mills. General Burnside says that he shall not use it. If you do not want to use it, send a party down to destroy it before you leave. If you use it, destroy it when you have done with it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 26, 1864—7.25 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I want to use the Quarles Bridge for my corps and have it left till the pickets cross. I have directed them to remain till 1 a. m. I shall direct them to destroy it. I shall take up the bridge at Jericho as soon as the Sixth Corps crosses over. I shall let the Sixth Corps pass me while I am issuing rations, so that I shall be behind them at Carmel Church.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—11.35 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I had already informed the engineer at the bridge that it could be taken up after my mounted provost guard had crossed. My pickets on the right are to be withdrawn at 12 p. m., and assembled as reserves to those connected with yours, and all to come over together by the Quarles Bridge at 1 a. m.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
No. —. } *May* 26, 1864.

This command will move to-night at dark (the exact hour to be designated hereafter), crossing the North Anna at Quarles' Ford bridge in the following order: First, the First Division, Brigadier-General Griffin; second, Artillery Brigade, Colonel Wainwright; third, Fourth Division with Maryland Brigade, Brigadier-General Cutler; fourth, Third Division, Brigadier-General Crawford. The wagon trains will follow the Third Division. After crossing the river, the Heavy Artillery Brigade, Colonel Kitching, will move at the head of the column. An officer from each division will report at these headquarters at 6.30 p. m. for instructions in regard to the withdrawing of the pickets. Particular attention will be given by division commanders that their commands are kept well in hand, that no straggling is permitted, especially in the withdrawing of the troops from their present position.

By command of Major-General Warren:

S. M. MORGAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 26, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

I have ordered my three left brigades to watch carefully any assault which may be made upon you, and to give what assistance may be necessary with my second line, and, if necessary, with my whole force. I am holding their picket-line upon my center in wholesome restraint. My whole line is a mere shell.

Yours, respectfully,

THOS. H. NEILL,
Brigadier-General, Comdg. Second Division, Sixth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 26, 1864—11.45 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: A staff officer from General Wheaton reports his second line in readiness to support you in case you are pressed in front. It is the Ninety-eighth Pennsylvania, 330 muskets, and Sixty-second New York, 140.

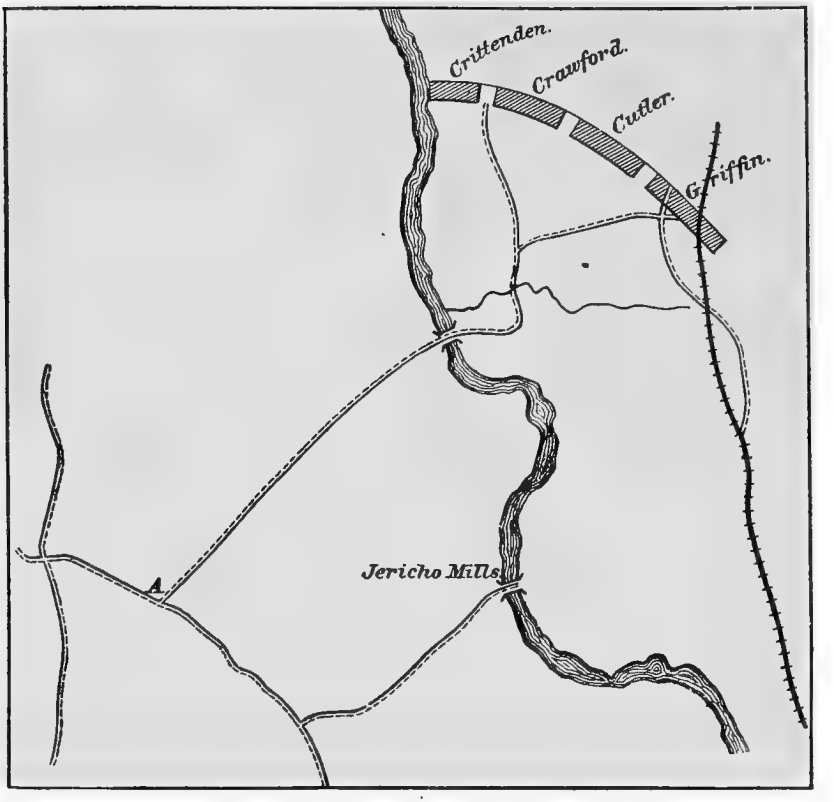
Very respectfully,

C. B. MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 26, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

Begin to withdraw by way of Quarles' Mills as soon as you can do it without being observed by the enemy and take your batteries with you to join the others at that place. When you reach the point A you will probably find the Sixth Corps passing. Halt there and



mass your troops close together, so that if the commissary trains get up you can issue rations before starting and while the Sixth Corps is passing.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—8.10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

As soon as the trains of the corps have crossed the North Anna, I propose withdrawing the troops from Warren's old intrenchments and placing [them] in the position on my right vacated by Russell. Is the bridge at Jericho Mills to be maintained, and does the major-general commanding desire me to guard it?

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I would suggest that a small force of cavalry, say one or two squadrons, be assigned to General Russell for his march to-night;

also that guides be furnished him, he not knowing the road, and it may not be in his power to procure them on the march. At last report, 6.15 a. m., the trains were nearly all over, and Russell has moved a part of his command.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

Your dispatches received. The bridge at Jericho is to be used by you in withdrawing, and you will guard it until you have crossed. The demonstration of the division of cavalry on our right to-day will admit of a diminution of the guard. A show of troops should be made in the place vacated by Russell.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The name Chesterfield Station is printed in the wrong place on the recent maps. It is about 3½ miles north of the river, and about 2 miles from Carmel Church. Take the road that crosses the Telegraph road at Carmel Church and passes through Old Chesterfield [Court]-House.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864. (Received 9.45 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

A negro, belonging to Mr. Ben. Lowry, has just been brought in who was at Hanover Court-House day before yesterday, at Hanover Junction yesterday, and crossed Little River at Cooke's Ford, about half a mile above Owen's, last night. He says there was only cavalry at the Court-House, but that Lee's army was at the Junction, and that his lines extended from the Junction to New Market Bridge; that Breckinridge, with his force, went down the country day before yesterday from the Junction, but he could not learn where.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.
May 26, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

Have your trains parked at Chesterfield Station, on the south side of the road, so as not to interfere with the passage of the Fifth Corps, which will move on the north side of the Sixth Corps, and take the route farthest from the Pamunkey River.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—12 m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you continue destroying the Virginia Central Railroad as far as you can during to-day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 26, 1864.

The corps will move at dark to Hanovertown, on the Pamunkey, via Jericho Bridge and Chesterfield Station, following the route of Russell's division, taking the road nearest the Pamunkey River. Order of march: First, Third Division; second, artillery; third, Second Division. Upon reaching Chesterfield Station the trains of the corps will follow the troops, General Neill detailing one brigade to follow the trains as a rear guard. One battery will report to General Neill to accompany the rear guard. The pickets will be withdrawn by the general officer of the day one hour after the troops have crossed the river.

By command of Major-General Wright:

C. H. WHITTELSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

In my dispatch of last night I stated that Willcox's division was but 3,000 strong, which was a mistake; it is something over 3,500. I hope to send you a field return to-day.

A. E. BURNSIDE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Make your arrangements for withdrawing Crittenden and Potter to-night, the former in consultation with Warren; the latter with

Hancock. After withdrawing you must arrange your corps so as to hold the fords and crossing places from Ox Ford to Jericho Bridge. Perhaps Hancock will be able to hold Ox Ford and leave the upper crossings only to you; of this I will more fully advise you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE, *Comdg. Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: Your dispatch is received and will receive attention.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Colonel WILSON,
Chief Commissary, Army of the Potomac:

With the supplies issued this morning this corps is rationed to the morning of the 31st with bread, sugar, coffee, and salt, and some seven or eight days' fresh beef. We have no more rations at Milford at this time, and unless you have a general supply train there to issue from, I shall direct that the small rations now on hand be made to last until the morning of the 2d, and will issue an extra amount of beef, if necessary. Have you a general supply train at Milford?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

No extra transportation is furnished this army for subsistence stores beyond what the corps have. We have had always to depend upon sending the wagons back to the depot for supplies as soon as they are emptied, and this is to be done with these wagons which to-day are issued from to bring the supplies up to June 1. Colonel Goodrich informed me yesterday that these wagons had gone to Port Royal from the Ninth Corps, which, from the number, will bring back about three days. The wagons emptied by your corps last night can, of course, bring up the same number of days' rations from Port Royal that they issued, viz, five days.

THOMAS WILSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief Commissary of Subsistence.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 26, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel GOODRICH,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Ninth Corps:

After the wagons ordered up last evening are emptied, please cause them to return at once. A train is to leave to-morrow for

Port Royal. Cause a commissary from each of your divisions to accompany it and to fill all the wagons they can possibly secure for the Ninth Corps with hard bread, coffee, sugar, and salt. Great energy will be necessary to keep the supplies up. Did you send any commissary with the sixty-one wagons you spoke about? Please acknowledge receipt.

THOMAS WILSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief Commissary of Subsistence.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw your two divisions to-night in the manner indicated in previous communications as soon as it can be done without attracting the attention of the enemy. The pickets of these divisions will be withdrawn at the same time as those of the troops they are connected with. General Warren is directed to leave his pickets as long as practicable, consistently with their being able to join his rear guard on the march. General Hancock is directed to leave his pickets as long as practicable, consistently with their being withdrawn to this side; the pontoon bridges taken up, and the other bridges destroyed by daylight. After the troops are over you will destroy the bridge at Quarles' Mills and such other bridges of similar kind on your front.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Can Warren be instructed to take up the bridge at Quarles' Mills? We have no troops crossing at that point. I believe he understands that he is to take it up, but am not certain.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 26, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch is received. Warren will destroy the bridge at Quarles'. General Hancock moves to a point directly across to a point beyond Chesterfield Station on the route he is to take. He does not pass through Carmel Church or Chesterfield Station.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
On North Anna River, May 26, 1864.

The commanding general directs that all the divisions of this command be ready to start at a moment's notice in the following order:

First, General Crittenden; second, General Willcox; third, General Potter. All trains, caissons, and battery wagons will be sent at once to Mount Carmel Church, and there parked to await further orders. On the march they will precede the troops and be accompanied by sufficient guards and pioneers to avoid any delay in their movement. These guards should be under charge of energetic officers, who will make the men seize upon any wagon that may be stuck and lift them out. Major Morton will post General Crittenden's command, where it will await orders to start. One of his batteries will be posted with his command and the other will accompany General Willcox.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

EDWARD M. NEILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864.

General CRITTENDEN:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires that you take particular care that the bridge be thoroughly destroyed after your troops have crossed. The Provisional Brigade will remain opposite your present position; General Ledlie's brigade at Quarles' Ford, and the Second Brigade at Jericho Ford. A section of Captain Wright's battery will go to Quarles' Ford and a section to Jericho Ford. Major Morton will place them. Please make your headquarters with Colonel Marshall's brigade and let your aides make themselves thoroughly aquainted with the position of the other brigades, so that orders may be communicated to them rapidly as to the time for leaving.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

These headquarters will be in the old position for the present.

MAY 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Colored Division:

The major-general commanding has heard with indignation of the gross outrages perpetrated by stragglers from this army upon the helpless inhabitants of the country. You will use every effort to put a stop to such acts, and are fully authorized and will be expected to have shot upon the spot all actors, aiders, and abettors in such infamy.

Very respectfully,

S. F. BARSTOW,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 26, 1864—10.10 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER CAVALRY CORPS:

The commanding general directs that you detail a detachment of 500 men, to be made up of mounted and dismounted cavalry, and order the commander of the detachment to report to the chief

quartermaster at Wright's Tavern at 8 a. m. to-morrow, to escort a supply train to and from Port Royal. The commanding general directs that you detach as many dismounted men as are available for the purpose for the duty of guarding the general supply trains for the army; and he wishes you to place an efficient officer in charge of this detachment. The general supply trains are now near Wright's Tavern.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 26, 1864.

The command will move at 11 this a. m. Each trooper will be supplied with three days' rations from this evening. Whatever forage may be in the division supply train will be given to the brigades, and will be carried upon the horses. All horses absolutely unserviceable will be sent to the wagon train, as also all dismounted men sent to report to the dismounted battalion.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 26, 1864.

The Second Cavalry Division will march at 11 this a. m. Order of march: First Brigade, Brig. Gen. H. E. Davies; second, wagons and ambulances, ordnance; third, Second Brigade, Col. J. Irvin Gregg.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, on joining your division, be dismounted, and its horses turned over to the dismounted veterans of your command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Owen's Ford, on Little River, May 26, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Arriving here, the crossing recommended by General Wright, I found the river so swollen by the recent rains as to ren-

der the fords impassable. This ford is belly-deep, with the bank 3 feet high at ordinary stages. The banks are now overflowed 3 feet at least, so that the stream is probably 7 or 8 feet deep, and 60 feet wide. A rebel cavalry picket of the Tenth and Eleventh Virginia is in sight just beyond. Colonel Hammond, of the Fifth New York, and the officer in command of his pickets, tell me that there is no place within 10 miles of this at which the river can be crossed without swimming. I shall examine myself, and endeavor to find a crossing. In case I should find this impracticable what shall I do? Please send me instructions at once. The existence of bridges is still in doubt. None is known within 10 miles up the stream.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Cooke's Ford, May 26, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your note of 6.50 p. m.* is received. I have examined this ford, and questioned citizens, from which I am satisfied that Little River, in its present stage, is nowhere fordable within 10 miles of this place. There is a bridge, or was one, standing several days ago at Coleman's, 8 miles above. I have sent a patrol on that road in that direction, and made a show of crossing here and at Owen's. I can make a foot bridge in an hour upon which I shall send across one squadron. The enemy's cavalry picket did not attempt any resistance to my skirmishers. My engineer officer reports Butler's Bridge in good condition. I shall, therefore, recross the North Anna there about midnight. The pontoon train I shall send back at once to report to chief engineer at Chesterfield. I shall camp for a few hours somewhere between Jericho and Butler's Bridge, but, having permanent communication, shall not withdraw my cavalry pickets from the line of the Little River till nearly daylight. My headquarters will be somewhere on the road to Butler's Bridge till 5 a. m.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Cooke's Ford, May 26, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 12 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the squadron of my command thrown across the Little River over a little foot bridge at Cooke's Ford has advanced about three-fourths of a mile on the other side, to the point where the enemy's pickets were posted at our first

* Not found.

approach, without meeting any of the enemy's forces, or noticing any signs of them. Their pickets were undoubtedly withdrawn at the commencement of the demonstration of my command.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—The patrol sent out on the road toward Coleman's Bridge (Gordonsville road) has just returned without seeing anything of the enemy. They heard that a small party of about 20 of the enemy's cavalry crossed the Little River to-day, and made their way toward Trinity Church, 2½ miles from this point.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864. (Received 8.30 p. m. 27th.)

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Navy-Yard:

The commanding general directs that you proceed to Fortress Monroe, Va., with all the bridging material at your command, and hold yourself in readiness to proceed up the James River with the same at very short notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ENGINEER DEPOT,
Washington, May 26, 1864.

Capt. C. CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

On Tuesday, 17th instant, I received orders at 12 m. to fit out and hold in readiness for Belle Plain a train of twenty-four pontoons, with material for bridge. Soon after (say about 3 p. m.) received verbal orders at Engineer Depot to fit out a train of forty boats and material for Harper's Ferry. The train for Belle Plain was sent 10 a. m. 18th, pursuant to order to forward received at 7 a. m. 18th. Train for Harper's Ferry left at 3.15 p. m. 18th instant, in charge of Captain Clarke and 40 men, of First District of Columbia Volunteers. Within order for this last train was only received by mail on the 19th instant.

WM. H. PETTES,
Colonel Fiftieth New York Engineers, Comdg. Eng. Depot.

WASHINGTON, *May* 26, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Port Royal, Va.:

You can temporarily detain detachment of Eighth Illinois Cavalry. The regiment must, however, be reunited as soon as possible.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Royal, May 26, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER:

I have just received your telegram. Send word whom you leave in command.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Royal, Va., May 26, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER,
Commanding Forces, &c., Fredericksburg, Va.:

I send you to-day 200 infantry under command Captain Blunt, regular army, and 300 cavalry under Colonel Cesnola, for the purpose of securing the wounded and getting them into Fredericksburg. Have you any forage and commissary stores in Fredericksburg to supply these troops? Acknowledge this and answer immediately.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

POINT LOOKOUT, *May 26, 1864.*
(Received 11.25 a. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have received no further report of deserters from the Army of the Potomac. My cavalry is scouring Charles and Saint Mary's Counties. I last night detained Lieutenant-Colonel Cross, Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers, who was ordered to report to Major-General Smith for duty. He is in arrest, and has resigned under charges. Please instruct me whether he shall go with the regiment to Port Royal, or report to General Smith. The Veteran Reserve Regiment is near the wharf. The Fifth New Hampshire will embark directly.

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *May 26, 1864—7 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

A short time ago Thomas Webster, esq., chairman of the Philadelphia committee for recruiting colored troops, brought to this department a colored man whom he introduced as the Rev. Mr. Underdue, of Philadelphia, stating that he was well known in Philadelphia, bore a good character, had rendered much service in recruiting colored troops, and was supposed to be able to render you valuable service in communicating with colored people. Impressed by his representations I gave Underdue a pass and a letter to you explaining the object of his visit and Mr. Webster's statements. Two days ago Mr. Webster informed me that Underdue was arrested by your provost-marshal and held in custody as a spy. He is much

grieved about the matter, is sure of Underdue's innocence, and fears the case has never come to your knowledge. I beg to call the case to your attention and that you will favor me with the facts, so as to relieve Mr. Webster and the committee, who are deeply interested about the trouble they have occasioned to Underdue, who was induced by their persuasion to go to you.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, *May* 26, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Bermuda Hundred, Va.:

General Grant directs that you retain no more troops than may be necessary to hold the James River to City Point, acting solely on the defensive, and send all else to White House, on the Pamunkey, to land on the north side and join the Army of the Potomac. This column will be placed under command of Major-General Smith. One or two field batteries and a regiment of cavalry will go with it, to cover the landing. General Gillmore or General Weitzel should be placed in the immediate command of your defensive position on the James, as they are familiar with defensive works. General Grant, at noon yesterday, was between the two Annas, and the enemy seemed disposed to dispute his farther advance. Some irregularities in the command at Fort Monroe and Norfolk are reported, the correction of which should receive your attention.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 26, 1864—10.45 a. m.
(Received 2.10 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Further official reports show that the repulse at Wilson's Wharf was even more complete than I telegraphed. The enemy retreated during the night, leaving 25 of their dead in our hands, and showed a loss of killed and wounded of more than 200. From the accounts of every officer the negro troops behaved most splendidly.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, near Bermuda Hundred,
May 26, 1864—9 p. m. (Received 9 a. m. 27th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

No irregularities have been reported to me at Norfolk or Fort Monroe. Please indicate what they are, and they shall receive immediate attention.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, near Bermuda Hundred, Va.,
May 26, 1864—8.30 p. m. (Received 10 a. m. 27th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Telegram of 10 a. m. to-day received. Orders were already given this morning to put, say, 17,000 infantry in condition to move at once, leaving what may be sufficient only, in the judgment of myself and officers, to hold the line of defenses between the James and Appomattox, near Point of Rocks, which is our defensive line. You say "hold the line of the James to City Point." Is it intended to abandon this line and retire to City Point? This will be a work of time to save material and men. General Meigs can explain the difference. At all events send transportation which has been ordered to Washington.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 26, 1864—9 p. m.

Colonel BIGGS:

Send me all the transportation you can to Bermuda Hundred, and telegraph what is coming.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BERMUDA, *May* 26, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

Have here and in adjacent waters that can be in a few hours called in, transportation as follows: Steamers, Metamora, capacity for 600 men; John Disney, capacity, 600 men; Star, 800 men; Thomas Powell, 1,000 men; Montauk, 400 men; New York, 300 men; J. Johnson, 400 men; Jerome, 250 men; Pioneer, 500 men; Eagle No. 1, 700 men; Eagle No. 2, 700 men; C. W. Thomas, 300 men. This does not include the three dispatch boats, Greyhound, Eliza Hancox, and A. Winants.

GEO. S. DODGE,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 70. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *In the Field, May* 26, 1864.

Colonel Garrard's cavalry will relieve Colonel Pond's regiment, the Sixty-second Ohio, as provost guard at Bermuda Landing. Colonel Garrard will have command at that post. Colonel Pond will report immediately at the front with his regiment, and himself report at these headquarters for orders. Colonel Garrard will dismount his men and put his horses in the most favorable places to be cared for by a few men, for the purpose of depasturing and recruitment. General Kautz will dismount his men, leave his horses in the most convenient places, in charge of as few men as possible, for the purposes of depasturing and recruitment, and will report at these headquarters for assignment to position on the line. Colonel Cole will dismount his men, and report at these headquarters for duty on

the line, leaving his horses in charge of as few men as possible, in the most convenient places, for depasturing and recruitment. The portion of Colonel Onderdonk's men now reporting to General Smith will report to General Kautz. Generals Turner and Ames will report to these headquarters for duty in the mobile column, and the following disposition of troops on the line will be made as soon as possible and without attracting the attention of the enemy.

General Terry, with his own division, and all the men and officers of the Tenth Army Corps not able to march, and as much of the First Connecticut Artillery as is there stationed, will occupy the line now occupied by the Tenth Army Corps, with one brigade as his reserve, to be posted near his center. General Kautz will be in command of the line now occupied by General Smith. His cavalry, dismounted, will occupy the line now held by General Brooks. Colonel Cole's cavalry regiment, dismounted, will hold the line now occupied by Stannard's brigade; the Nineteenth Wisconsin the line now held by Stedman's brigade. The Sixty-second Ohio will be a reserve to Cole and Sanders; these three regiments, under the command of the senior officer, who is to report to General Kautz. The three regiments of troops of Hinks' division will, when they report to General Kautz, form the reserve of Kautz's line, and be posted in rear of the right of his line.

All the men and officers of the Eighteenth Army Corps not able to march will also report to General Kautz and be assigned to duty on his line. Major-General Gillmore will be in command of the whole line. All the artillery and engineer regiments will remain posted as they now are, and report to General Gillmore. To a full and efficient execution of this order corps and division commanders will organize all the men of their commands not able to march into proper companies and battalions, in charge of commissioned officers not able to march. The infantry of the First and Second Divisions, of the Eighteenth Corps, and the Second and Third Divisions, of the Tenth Corps, able to march will form the mobile column, under command of Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, and as soon as relieved in accordance with the dispositions of this order will withdraw from the line and encamp near it, but out of sight of the enemy, upon such roads as may be convenient for movement. The above arrangements are for temporary purposes, and will not interfere with corps, division, and brigade returns as now made.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GILLMORE'S,
May 26, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

GENERAL: In compliance with your general orders of to-day, I propose to relieve Ames' and Turner's pickets at the usual hour this afternoon, and to withdraw their commands from the intrenchments just after dusk. Will this be soon enough, or shall the movement take place at once?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 26, 1864—5.50 p. m.

Generals GILLMORE and SMITH:

In making the changes provided for in general orders as to the occupation of lines, give directions that each relieved officer shall give the fullest instructions and information to the new officer as to topography, situation of the enemy, the situation even of picket-lines, points of probable attack and means of supporting it, so that the relieving officer shall, in the earliest possible moment, have full knowledge to fit him for his duties. See to it also that the new officers are fully instructed in the provisions of General Orders, No. 62, current series.*

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GILLMORE'S, *May* 26, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatch of 5.50 is received. I have no department orders numbered 62, current series. Do you refer to the general order of May 20?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S, *May* 26, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

If Ames' and Turner's divisions are not to take their shelter-tents with them when they move I would suggest that they be left standing for the use of Terry's men. Ames' tents cannot well be moved without attracting attention. I propose to hold both divisions in their camps. Turner is out of the enemy's sight and Ames partially so. Will this answer?

Q. A. GILLMORE.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 26, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

Ames' and Turner's divisions are to take their shelter-tents with them. Generals Turner and Ames will be encamped by General Smith's orders as a part of his column. Ames' tents should be changed during the night, so as not too much to attract attention.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

Official copy sent to Generals Terry, Ames, and Turner at 8.05 p. m. Indorsement placed on Generals Terry's and Ames' copies by Captain Sealy: "General Terry will, to-night, put shelter-tents in the position occupied by General Ames' command, using the greatest precaution in order not to attract attention."

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*See p. 32.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 26, 1864—6.45 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

The order should have been numbered 62. It is the order of May 20, as to disposition of troops and the line of skirmishers, in case of attack on the intrenchments.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S,
May 26, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The necessary orders for General Terry to encamp on ground now occupied by General Ames before going, have been issued.

Your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S,
May 26, 1864—8.55 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I want a couple of miles or more of telegraph wire for entanglements in my front. Can it be had?

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 26, 1864.

General GILLMORE:

I see by an article in the New York Herald, said to be derived from authentic sources, that General Gillmore [proposed] to make his position secure by intrenchments against sorties or any movements of the enemy to oust us from them, when before Fort Darling, and that I answered that I could not pause for defensive preparations. This is the first I ever heard of this. Did you or do you authorize it? Please answer and correct an injustice.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division, Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: By direction of the major-general commanding, I have the honor to inclose copy* of a telegram received from department headquarters, and to direct that the orders therein contained be promptly carried out. Brigadier-General Ames has been instructed to confer with you in relation thereto. The major-general commanding directs that you immediately relieve the pickets of General Ames according to the instructions from department headquarters, forwarded to you to-day, and that the officers to be relieved, and the

*See Butler to Gillmore, 6.15 p. m., p. 237.

officers relieving them, go over the ground together; also that you cause the instructions for the disposition of the troops, in case of attack, to be republished to your command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 26, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I respectfully, but earnestly, urge that the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers be returned to my division. This regiment was detailed for fatigue duty at the landing on the morning of the disembarkation. When relieved from that duty, it was, as I am informed, but not officially notified, immediately detailed as provost guard, and now I learn that, being relieved from the last-named duty, it is ordered to the front, to report to another commander than myself. I respectfully represent that it is the custom of the service to apportion such details among the different brigades and division of a command, and that to detail a regiment for detached service after detached service, thus depriving an officer permanently of a portion of his command, is both unusual and unjust.

The brigade to which this regiment belongs is very greatly reduced by losses. It musters for duty only about 1,100 men. The 500 men of the Sixty-second Ohio are necessary to enable it to take its tours of duty with the other brigade of my division. By General Orders, No. [70], I am directed to garrison that portion of the intrenchments now held by myself and General Ames; that is to say, with eleven regiments and some detachments of invalids, I am to occupy the ground now held by nineteen regiments, and I am to have one brigade in reserve, as now. This will throw on my division a great amount of picket duty, an amount which cannot be properly performed unless this regiment is returned to me. I earnestly hope that the commanding general will reconsider his orders, and not place upon my division solely the burden of those detachments which are usually taken from divisions in turn.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 26, 1864.

Col. J. R. HAWLEY,
Seventh Connecticut Volunteers, Comdg. Second Brigade:

COLONEL: You will please detail from your command one regiment, to report to Col. J. B. Howell, commanding First Brigade, for duty to-night. The regiment will report, as soon as possible, with arms.

By order of Brig. Gen. Afred H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 26, 1864.

Col. H. M. PLAISTED.
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: You will please detail one regiment from your command (the Tenth Connecticut Volunteers), to report to Col. J. B. Howell, commanding First Brigade, for duty to-night. You will also cause that portion of your command not on duty to sleep upon their arms, and move into the intrenchments upon the first alarm.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864.

Col. H. M. PLAISTED,
Eleventh Maine Volunteers, Comdg. Third Brigade:

COLONEL: I inclose code of rocket signals in use on the picket-line for your information. You will please cause careful watch to be kept for them, and be guided by them in event of alarm, sending word immediately to these headquarters in case of any of the colored rockets being sent up from the picket-line.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14. HDQRS. 2D DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 26, 1864.

I. It has been reported to the brigadier-general commanding that several cases have occurred in this division of men inflicting wounds upon their own persons for the purpose of escaping duty and in order that they may be sent to the rear. Such conduct is dastardly and despicable and none but arrant cowards will engage in it. The man who will desert his fellow-soldier on the field of battle, or seek to shirk the privations and duties of the march and camp by mutilating himself, thereby increasing the dangers and labors of his companions, should be stigmatized by the men of his regiment as a poltroon and coward, and he certainly shall receive the punishment of one.

Hereafter the surgeons and assistant surgeons of regiments will immediately report to their regimental commanders any man coming under their treatment or knowledge who they have reason to believe has mutilated his person in any manner for the purpose of escaping duty, when a thorough investigation will be made, and if shown to be guilty a report in writing will be made to the division headquarters by the regimental commander, and to the chief surgeon of the division by the regimental surgeon. The man will be sent to the hospital if unfit to remain in camp, accompanied by these reports, giving a history of his case, with the view that on his recovery he may be brought to trial and receive the punishment of a coward.

II. Issuing commissaries will only sell whisky to officers on the written permission of the brigade commanders. These permits will be taken up by the issuing commissary and transmitted weekly to the division commissary for the information of the brigadier-general commanding.

By order of Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Hatcher's, Va., May 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: By direction of the major-general commanding, I have the honor to inclose copy of a telegram* received from department headquarters. I am instructed to direct that you confer with Brigadier-General Terry upon the matter referred to, and cause the directions therein contained to be promptly carried out.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 26, 1864.

Colonel POND,
Sixty-second Ohio Vols., Comdg. at Bermuda Hundred:

Colonel Garrard will relieve you to-night. You will withdraw all your regiment, whether detailed or not, as soon as they can be relieved by men from Colonel Garrard's regiment.

By command of Major-General Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITH'S,
May 26, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

General Martindale reports the enemy in position near and at the mill on the two roads from his front to the Junction. Nothing but skirmishers visible, however, and I have ordered them to feel them. I shall also send Dutton on his track of yesterday to make a diversion on the flank.

W. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 33. HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 26, 1864.

The following code of night-alarm signals is announced. An officer at each division headquarters will be instructed and charged with the carrying out of this order. Rockets will be furnished by

*See Butler to Gillmore, 6.15 p. m., p. 237.

the signal department upon application. There will be three alarm stations at the headquarters of a grand guard. One on the right of the line, one in the center, and one on the left. To denote where skirmishing, "white rocket;" the enemy advancing in force in our front, "red rocket;" enemy moving troops to our right, "green rocket;" enemy moving troops to our left, "red green rocket."

By command of Major-General Smith:

CHAS. P. MUHLENBERG,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 26, 1864.

General BROOKS,
Comdg. First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that as soon as Colonel Dutton returns, you send two regiments to the mill, over the road that you found yesterday. General Burnham's brigade will be held in reserve to-day to move either way as circumstances may require. Colonel Dutton will command the two regiments that move out.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. P. MUHLENBERG,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. T. H. BROOKS,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding corps directs that, in accordance with inclosed copy* of instructions from department headquarters, you prepare your whole command, excepting the artillery and officers and men unable to march, to change your camp, with all your stores, &c., to-morrow morning. You will please send a staff officer to these headquarters at 8 a. m. to-morrow to receive instructions regarding the road you will move on and the ground you will occupy. All the officers and men of your infantry whom your medical officers may think unfit to march will be sent to the corps hospital at 8 o'clock in the morning to be inspected by a board of surgeons. You will direct your artillery to report to Brigadier-General Kautz, and fully carry out the other provisions of the order, as well as the instructions contained in the inclosed copy of telegram and general order to which it refers. Particular attention will be paid to organizing in a battalion the officers and men who are not fit to march. After they are inspected, the medical director will dispose of them according to instructions already given. All who may be found guilty of malingering will be severely punished.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Martindale.)

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*See General Orders, No. 70, Department of Virginia and North Carolina, May 26, p. 235.

MAY 26, 1864.

General MARTINDALE,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: If you think you will require your whole division to carry those rifle-pits you can order your other brigade over, and then inform me and I will order one of General Brooks' brigades to cover your portion of the lines.

By command of Major-General Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 30. } *City Point, Va., May 26, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

III. Col. J. H. Holman, First U. S. Colored Troops, will with his regiment proceed at once to Fort Powhatan and relieve Col. J. B. Kiddoo of the command of the station. Colonel Kiddoo, upon being relieved, will with his regiment proceed at once to City Point and report to the commanding officer of the Second Brigade.

* * * * * * *

V. The Thirty-seventh Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. A. G. Chamberlain, will proceed at once to Wilson's Wharf and report to Brig. Gen. E. A. Wild, who will remain in command of that station. Colonel Chamberlain will carry his extra ammunition with him.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. E. W. Hinks:

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 26, 1864.
(Received 10 a. m.)

General HINKS:

There will be no more immediate attack at Wilson's Wharf, and the disposition herein directed will cover Powhatan. Concentrate your force so as to have, say, 1,000 men at Wilson's Wharf, Wild commanding, and nearly the same number at Powhatan, so as to leave three at least of your best regiments as a movable brigade of reserve at City Point, to remain there till further orders. Acknowledge receipt.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 26, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General BUTLER:

Your dispatch relating to the disposition of troops is received, and its details will be executed with the least possible delay. It will be necessary to withdraw one of the two regiments now in the works at Spring Hill, in order to concentrate the movable brigade required at City Point.

HINKS,
General.

MAY 26, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Colonel DUNCAN:

You will march the Fourth Regiment to City Point at once. Bring your brigade staff with you. Colonel Ames will remain in command at Spring Hill for the present. Your equipage and the extra ammunition will be brought by water.

HINKS,
General.

MAY 26, 1864—3.45 p. m.

General BUTLER:

The dispositions are now made for the organization of a reserve brigade at City Point, composed of the Fourth, Fifth, and Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops, and Captain Choate's battery, under command of Colonel Duncan. The troops will all be at City Point by daylight to-morrow morning.

HINKS,
General.

MAY 26, 1864.
(Received 5.45 p. m.)

General HINKS:

The dismounted men of General Kautz's command will be ordered to report to that officer at once.

BUTLER,
General.

MAY 26, 1864—8 p. m.

General BUTLER:

There are no men of General Kautz's command at this station, with the exception of a very few in hospital, who will be forwarded at once.

HINKS,
General.

MAY 26, 1864.
(Received 8.15 p. m.)

General HINKS:

Don't send any men from your hospital unless able for duty.

SHAFFER,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 26, 1864.

Colonel SPEAR, *Commanding:*

COLONEL: As soon as the First Brigade has moved you will follow with your command dismounted and occupy the line now held by General Brooks. The First Brigade is now moving. A staff officer will be on the line to place your troops in position.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATCHELDER'S CREEK, *May* 26, 1864.

Capt. W. HOLDEN, *Assistant Quartermaster:*

A fearful explosion took place here. So far we have about 15 dead bodies. Please send this number of coffins up at your earliest convenience. If you cannot send them to-night please have them up by the morning train, and oblige,

CLAASSEN.

HEADQUARTERS OUTPOSTS,
May 26, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Captain JUDSON:

A fearful explosion occured here half an hour ago, whereby several men and officers were killed and wounded. Thus far I cannot trace to any negligence causing this explosion except from idle curiosity, tampering with the torpedoes sent in charge of Lieutenant King up here. Medical aid is wanted up. Dr. Page, with his generous stores, is desirable. I am too sick at heart to tell you more just now.

P. J. CLAASSEN.
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C., May 27, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *In the Field:*

GENERAL: It appears from returns just handed in by General Augur, that I have sent to Fredericksburg and Port Royal, since you crossed the Rapidan, May 4, a little over 40,000 troops. I hope within a few days to send you between 5,000 and 10,000 more. As before stated, I have sent to General Butler within the same period about 3,000. He telegraphs to me to-day, that he will send with Smith to White House 17,000 infantry. Some cavalry and artillery will go with them, to cover the landing, escort trains, &c. I think he will make the entire force about 20,000. This will make your entire re-enforcements since you crossed the Rapidan, between 60,000 and 70,000 men. This includes about 1,000 returned veterans, and 1,000 stragglers and deserters, who have been arrested and sent back.

In a telegram from Captain Pitkin to General Rucker, which I have just seen, it is stated on the authority of General Ingalls, that you propose to break up your depots on the Rappahannock about the first of next month, and remove them to West Point, the White House, or some other place on the Pamunkey. This would indicate that when Lee falls back behind the South Anna you propose to make the Pamunkey your base of operations on Richmond. Permit me to repeat to you the opinions which have been expressed to me within the last two years, by officers who are thoroughly acquainted with the country, and who had much experience with General McClellan in his Peninsular operations. They say that any campaign against Richmond based on the Pamunkey, with West Point, White House, or even New Castle, as the point of supplies, will involve the defense of the line of the York and Pamunkey Rivers, and the passage of the Chickahominy and its swamps. This will leave Lee, if he falls back upon Richmond, the James River Canal, and one or more of the railroads south of that river, as communication by which to receive re-enforcements and supplies.

Even if your cavalry should cut these communications, they will soon be reopened. But should you occupy the sector less than 90 degrees between the James and the Chickahominy, your right resting on the former and your left on the Horse Pond or Meadow Bridge, your flanks will be pretty safe, your line of advance will be over favorable ground, you will hold the canal, and can, with your cavalry, control the railroad lines south of the James River. Moreover, they say this point is the most favorable for an attack, as the Tredegar Iron Works, the arsenal, the water-works, and all the flouring mills lie on the northwest side of the city, and exposed to a bombardment from that direction. By advancing on this line, you will, when within 10 miles of Richmond, be about equidistant from Fredericksburg, Port Royal, Tappahannock, and West Point. At Ashland, or on the South Anna, the latter will be the most distant as well as the most inaccessible point of supplies. The navigation to White House is said to be difficult and precarious.

If you keep up three points of supply, viz, Port Royal or Tappahannock, by the Rappahannock; White House or West Point, by the York; and City Point by the James, you will have three lines of communication to guard, which will require a large number of troops and gun-boats. Moreover, three lines seriously affect our water transportation, which is much reduced by keeping so many vessels loaded with ordnance and commissary stores. If consistent with your plan of operations, it would be safer and more economical to keep up only a single line. It is especially inconvenient to keep so many vessels and supplies in the James River. Moreover, many of the commissary stores will be seriously injured by keeping them in vessels. The general impression among the staff officers with whom I have conversed is that the Tappahannock line is preferable to West Point or Port Royal. Our larger transports cannot reach the latter place or White House.

Why not, when Smith's forces have joined you, break up either the York or Rappahannock line and bring out of James River all transports with stores not required there? I think it would simplify the supplying of your army and greatly economize transportation. Is it not safer to have your depot of supplies in your rear toward Washington than on the James or the York? I presume there were good reasons for abandoning the Fredericksburg road at the time you did, but if you should wish to resume that line it can be immediately put in operation. It is completed to Falmouth, and the bridge to Fredericksburg can be restored in a few days. Although a little longer for land transportation than either of the others, it is much shorter and more convenient by water, and with our railroad facilities supplies could be forwarded much more rapidly, and I hardly think a larger force would be required to guard it. I simply make these suggestions for your consideration, but shall make no changes without your orders. I, however, must urge you not to put the Chickahominy between your army and its supplies, nor between you and Richmond. It is a most serious obstacle to be passed by a large army or by its supplies. Moreover, in the summer months, it is exceedingly unhealthy, as is also the James River below Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—1 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

My command is mostly over. I will relieve my pickets about 2 o'clock.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—2 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I have ordered that the withdrawal of the pickets commence at once. My last reports were: Gibbon entirely across; Barlow's last brigade crossing; Birney's (Third) brigade crossing; Potter across; Tyler already on this side, except two regiments with other divisions.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Are there any orders for me, or at what time may I expect them? Will they arrive before the telegraph is taken down? The command is all over but the picket.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—3 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

You will receive orders as soon as General Wright reports that the road is clear. Orders will be sent to you before the wire is taken down.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

All my people across the river. The wooden bridge is burnt and the pontoon bridge is taken up.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

General Meade has directed that the wires be taken up. I shall picket the river, connecting with General Willcox along my whole front. I am at my old headquarters near you, and of course shall not move until you are ready, and of course can't move until we are both ready. I have sent a staff officer ahead to see if the road is clear, and I will let you know, and as soon as you are ready we can easily arrange. I shall wait for your reply and then the wires will be taken down.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—8 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: General Burnside has just come over. He has received word from General Warren that it will be at least two hours before he can get out of the way. General Burnside has therefore recalled all his orders for movement. He says he will, if you please, meet you here.

Very respectfully,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 27, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

The arrangement is quite satisfactory. I have sent an officer to look out for the road. Will see you very soon, and will not move till all is ready.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: About an hour or an hour and a half ago General Burnside and myself understood that the roads were clear, and ordered a move; but while I was starting General Burnside received a message from General Warren, at his train, saying that it would be fully two hours before his road would be cleared. I therefore halted. My road now is understood to be clear, but I am waiting for General Burnside to ascertain that his is also. The enemy show infantry pickets against us and occasionally a regiment, but I imagine no strong force, as they cannot cross the river very well. We hear nothing of our cavalry behind us.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Burnside has just informed me that he is ready, and we are just now about starting.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—4.15 p. m. (Received 7 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general directs me to inform you that Wright's route is modified, he proceeding to a point opposite Mrs. Hundley's, a few miles above Hanovertown, where he will throw a bridge. The road turns off a mile or two back of these headquarters. You will follow Wright and encamp in rear of him, unless otherwise directed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The head of my column is at Concord Church, about one-half mile from Needham's. It is 16 miles from here to Hanovertown. I will march my troops as far as I can to-night, but, unless the case is one of great necessity, I can hardly reach Hanovertown. Ten miles from here is a stream; the first water I can hear of for my command. Please indicate to me your wishes. I am marching two columns.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 27, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My line now extends across and beyond the road leading from the blacksmith shop to General Warren's position. Major Roebling informed Colonel Morgan about 5 that General Warren would move at once to connect with my left on this road. I suppose you know how this is. It is in my opinion questionable whether there is any occasion for my brigade at the shop, as my line crosses the road about 500 yards behind it, and it would be better, it seems to me, since we are intrenched in a strong position, to fight on my

fortified front. If the brigade was attacked by a strong force it would be obliged to fall back under very disadvantageous circumstances, or it would be necessary to move to its support, and so shift the battle-ground from the intrenched and studied line to a new one, where we would have no advantage of position.

Respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—6 p. m. (Received 7.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

You can halt your column at dark, leaving at 4 a. m. to-morrow. You will follow the Sixth Corps, whose route has been slightly changed and who will perhaps cross the river above Hanovertown. When you halt report your position. Headquarters are at the Mangohick Church. The cavalry were across at 9 o'clock this morning and Russell at 11 a. m. All quiet when last heard from, though Russell is nervous about Breckinridge at Hanover Court-House.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Bethel Church, May 27, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Received your dispatch by Captain Mason; also one of 6 p. m. Expecting to make a long march to-night, and the men being wearied, and on account of the difficulty of getting water, I had halted my command, say three-quarters of an hour ago, to let them make a little coffee. I shall now move on about 5 miles or to suitable camp. I think they will be able to do that now after their rest well enough.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Bethel Church, May 27, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I send herewith a note received from Major Bull, provost-marshal of this command, relating to a report given by two contrabands:

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 26, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: Two contrabands who have just come in report that Lee's whole army left Hanover Junction this morning about 8 a. m., taking road to Richmond.

S. O. BULL,
Major and Provost-Marshal.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—9 p. m. (Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you follow the Sixth Corps to the bridge at Mrs. Hundley's, cross and form on General Wright's left. General W. is directed to move at daylight and take position, holding the crossing of Crump's Creek on his right, with his left extended toward the Totopotomoy. General Warren crosses at Hanovertown and takes position beyond (probably beyond Mrs. Via's), with his left on the Totopotomoy and his right extended toward Crump's Creek, General Burnside to form on his right. Our cavalry are now along Crump's Creek. Breckinridge with his infantry and two divisions of cavalry is represented to be at Hanover Court-House.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—9.15 p. m. (Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that he approves your proposal to break up the division under General Tyler and apportion the regiments to organizations already existing, and authorizes the same.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

It was suggested whether you could not form a fourth division, having in all four some of the newly arrived troops.

A. A. H.,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 27, 1864—11.45 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

You must be about 2 miles in rear of Wright, who is at McDowell's. It is not necessary to go farther to-night, and the hour of

your leaving to-morrow morning you can tell from Wright's distance from you. He moves at daylight, and you need not move until he is out of the way, so that you will have a clear road; your troops well up on his.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 27, 1864—6.30 a. m.

The command will move at once in the order indicated last night, viz, Second Division, General Gibbon; First Division, General Barlow; Third Division, General Birney; rear guard composed of three regiments of the Fourth Division. The pickets will be withdrawn by each division commander as his division moves. It is not supposed that the enemy can follow in any force.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 27, 1864—12.50 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER:

COLONEL: Miles covering bridge and this side. Second and Third Brigades across and massed on hill in rear of woods in position first taken up. Batteries across and going into position on hill. Brooke about crossing. Will take up position when First and Second Division pickets cross.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Corps officer of the day should notify me when all pickets are this side; if he does not, will find out as best I can.

F. C. B.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

My infantry and artillery have been resting here for an hour, and the wagon train is closing up. Unavoidable delays have kept us back. The men have so far straggled none. I shall go as far to-day as the men's strength will allow and set out again about midnight by moonlight; will have the coolness of the night and early day to march in, and I think can march 20 miles from where I start by to-morrow noon, which will, I think, bring me to the New Castle Ferry, if the distance is 35 miles from our starting point. General Burnside's infantry will hardly be able to set out before 12 m. to-day, but his men will be well rested, and if he sets out at midnight will not be much behind me at the Pamunkey River.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Headquarters are at Mangohick Church. The commanding general directs me to inform you that examinations are now being made that will probably modify your route from Hebron Church (1 mile beyond this), so that you will move to Hanovertown instead of New Castle Ferry. Wright is moving by a road that turns off a mile or two back from here and near to the bridge right opposite Mrs. Hundley's, in the vicinity of which he will throw a bridge. The commanding general thinks it better that you should move on as far as you can until toward evening and go into camp, then resuming the march as soon after daylight as practicable. Report when you camp.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—7.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have two divisions in camp, the third coming up, and the artillery and trains following. We camp on Dowell's Creek, about 2 miles from Mangohick Church. My headquarters are about 2 miles from the church, at a house called Turk's. My flag is on the road. The march has been very severe on men and animals. I have moved as fast and far as I could to clear the road for General Burnside. If he be camped 5 miles behind me he can start at the same hour and not be delayed.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you move to-morrow to Hanovertown, crossing the river, and take position in advance, with your left resting on the Totopotomoy and your right extending toward Crump's Creek. The map indicates this position to be beyond Mrs. Via's house. General Burnside will form on your right; Hancock next, and Wright on the right, holding the crossing of Crump's Creek. Upon crossing the river you will relieve General Russell's division, which will then rejoin its corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
No. —. } *May* 27, 1864—9.15 p. m.

1. This command will move to-morrow morning, 28th instant, at 4 o'clock, to Hanovertown. The order of march will be the same as to-day: First Division, Brigadier-General Griffin, leading; second,

Fourth Division, with Maryland Brigade, Brigadier-General Cutler; third, Third Division, Brigadier-General Crawford; fourth, Artillery Brigade, Colonel Wainwright; fifth, wagon trains; sixth, Heavy Artillery Brigade, Colonel Kitching.

By command of Major-General Warren:

S. M. MORGAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
Jericho Mills, May 27, 1864—12.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The rear of the corps has just crossed the bridge, and everything has passed quietly. The roads have been very heavy so far, and are said to be worse for the next mile, when they improve. The marching has thus far been slow in consequence. Will the major-general commanding inform me whether he expects the corps to be kept moving till it reaches Hanovertown, or whether a rest of, say, three hours can be taken after daylight? Without such a rest I fear the straggling will be excessive. I expect to meet my supply trains at Chesterfield Station and to halt long enough to issue rations.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 27, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have gone into camp near McDowell's, or Cedar Hill Mill, about 3½ miles from the point where we left the road on which General Russell marched. During the last mile the movement could be seen from the other side of the Pamunkey. I think it would be advisable, therefore, to move in the morning at daylight, so that the direction of our march could not be seen from the other side.

Very respectfully,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

My headquarters are on the road, left-hand side, at McDowell's house.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
South Side Pamunkey River, May 27, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MCMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I arrived at this point with my command at 11 a. m. The only information yet obtained places Breckinridge's command at Hanover Court-House, some 7 miles distant; a larger force of the enemy at

Hanover Junction. Should Breckinridge move on this point he would probably arrive here about 7 p. m. His force is estimated at about 10,000 men. Any other portion of the corps which is intended to be sent here I think should be pushed forward as rapidly as possible. Our cavalry are well to the front, and report one brigade of the enemy's cavalry (Rosser's) about 5 miles distant.

D. A. RUSSELL,
Brigadier-General.

The commissary was able to issue but one day's rations yesterday. He has been instructed to forward the balance ordered without delay.

D. A. R.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—2.35 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

We have no reports from Warren and Wright, but they are presumed to be across the river. Warren's pickets were to have been withdrawn at 2 a. m.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—3 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

My headquarters are where you saw me to-day, but I will shortly move back where you saw me day before yesterday.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—3 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Is General Crittenden's division in position at Quarles' Mills and Jericho Bridge?

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 27, 1864—3.30 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

One brigade at old crossing, one at Quarles' Mills, one at Jericho. The bridge at old crossing is now being destroyed. Pickets all withdrawn.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—3.45 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am ready to move at a moment's notice.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—3.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that it is just reported to him that some troops of your corps have cut the line of march of Warren's rear troops and the pickets of the Sixth Corps on the south side of the river. Where are these troops going? Have the brigades for Jericho Mills ford and Quarles' Mills ford been directed to move on the south side of the river? If they have been they will not be able to cross the river. Your report of Ninth Corps being ready for orders is just received.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—4 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch stating that your troops are in readiness to move at a moment's notice has been received. I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that this is inconsistent with the fact that a portion of them is on the south side of the river cutting the line of march of General Warren.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—5 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

It does not seem possible that any of my corps are on the south side of the river. All of General Crittenden's division was withdrawn over his own bridge, together with his pickets, and the bridge is destroyed. One brigade was left to cover the ford and one brigade sent to Quarles' Ford, and is in position there now, and one brigade was sent to Jericho Ford, and is represented to me as in position there now, under Major Morton, on the north side of the river. If General Warren's troops had not all passed over Quarles' Ford when this brigade for Jericho reached there it would have been impossible that the commanding officer of the brigade could have carried out the

orders of the commanding general without going through that column. My information as to the position of the troops is necessarily obtained from officers in charge of the movement, and I deem it quite as reliable as that received by the commanding general from like sources until the certainty is established. I am not in the habit of making reports inconsistent with the facts of the case, and cannot permit any person to make such insinuations.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Potter and Crittenden are across and their pickets are being withdrawn. Willcox still in position. Do you know anything of the progress of Warren or Wright?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The headquarters are at Mangohick Church. The route of the Fifth Corps and the Ninth Corps will probably be modified so that to-morrow they will move to Hanovertown instead of New Castle. General Wright is moving to a point 3 or 4 miles above Hanovertown by a route that turns off from the ridge road. These headquarters are about 2 miles back from here. The commanding general directs that you encamp for the night in rear of the Fifth Corps and follow it to-morrow. It is directed to move as soon after daylight as practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you follow the Fifth Corps to Hanovertown to-morrow morning, and after crossing the river take position on the right of the Fifth Corps. The left of the Fifth Corps will rest on Totopotomoy Creek, the right extending toward Crump's Creek. Hancock will be in position on your right and Wright on the right, holding the roads crossing Crump's Creek.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 27, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The commanding general directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch by telegraph of 5 a. m. this day, and to reply to the same as follows: The commanding general is somewhat astonished that you should deem it necessary to repel insinuations on your veracity, as no such insinuations were ever designed. Nor does he deem the telegram sent to you obnoxious to any such charge. You reported the brigades of Crittenden's division in position and your corps ready to move, whereas, at that very moment a staff officer of General Warren was reporting to the commanding general that his pickets were delayed in crossing the river by being cut by a column of your troops.

Now, while the commanding general is willing to admit the brigade could not reach Jericho without cutting Warren's column, unless it waited for it to pass, and while he is perfectly satisfied with the explanation of the cutting, he must insist the fact that this brigade was at that moment passing Quarles' Bridge, was inconsistent with the fact reported by you that it was in position at Jericho. This is all the commanding general intended to convey by the telegram. He is fully aware that you as well as himself are dependent on the reports of subordinates, liable to misapprehension and error, and the knowledge of this fact, he thinks, should have shielded him from the delusion you appear to have labored under that he intended to impugn your veracity or charge you with intentional misrepresentation. The report brought to the commanding general that some of your troops were on the south side of the river at the time was not well founded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Hanovertown, Va., May 27, 1864—9 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I now occupy Hanovertown. The crossing was taken with but little opposition, a small picket of cavalry being the only force found at this point. The two pontoon bridges are down and in use. The First Cavalry Division has crossed the river, the Second Division moving out to cross. General Russell's division has not yet arrived. I think it is but a short distance in our rear.

Very respectfully, &c.,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that General Torbert, whose division had the advance, found a detachment of about 100 men of

Gordon's brigade holding the ford at Hanovertown. This party was easily dislodged, and the division crossed. After passing through Hanovertown, on the road to Hanover Court-House, Gordon's brigade of cavalry (rebel) was encountered, charged, and driven pell-mell toward Hanover Court-House. We captured 6 commissioned officers and 70 men. If General Torbert's command had not been so much fatigued he would have captured the whole brigade, it was so much demoralized. It is reported that Wickham's and Lomax's brigades are both at Hanover Court-House. I am also informed that Breckinridge was there last night with 10,000 men. I have not pushed my advance beyond Crump's Swamp, as we have a good line from there to Totopotomoy Creek. General Russell's division has crossed, and is now all on this side of the river.

Very respectfully. your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

The commanding general desires that you have your horses saddled and the artillery hitched at 4. a. m. to-morrow.

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PORT ROYAL, *May* 27, 1864—1.30 p. m.
(Received 2.50 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

General Meade has ordered me to send him twenty pontoon-boats and appurtenances. I shall have to take the horses and harness belonging to the reserve batteries of the Ninth Corps, which are now here. Five hundred wagons for the front are now here loading. I shall send as many troops as can get ready, reserving a sufficient force for the protection of the telegraph line, depot, and guarding prisoners. Four hundred and twenty-six rebel prisoners are here. They will be shipped to Point Lookout as soon as transportation is ready. Two thousand more are expected.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 27, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Port Royal:

You are right in taking artillery horses and harness to send forward pontoon trains. If not enough, make up deficiency from quartermaster's trains. Several thousand more troops are on the way to Port Royal.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

PORT ROYAL, *May* 27, 1864—7 p. m.
(Received 8 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Transportation is ready for five of the six batteries of the Reserve Artillery of the Ninth Corps to Washington. Shall I send the officers, men, and horses with the guns which start to-morrow? As I keep a small force for the protection of the depot, I shall detain one of the batteries.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 27, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Port Royal:

Send back to Army of the Potomac all artillery horses fit for duty. Officers, men, and guns of Reserve Artillery not required for defense of depot at Port Royal will be sent to Washington.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Royal, May 27, 1864.

MILITARY GOVERNOR OF FREDERICKSBURG:

Advise me immediately when Fredericksburg is abandoned; also, when the troops have started for this place. Do this immediately, as we expect the line to be cut every moment.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 27, 1864.

General AUGUR:

Send a regiment of Ohio militia to Point Lookout to report there to commanding officer. Send me a memorandum of troops sent forward to Fredericksburg and Port Royal since May 4, the date of General Grant's crossing of the Rapidan.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SAINT MARY'S DISTRICT,
Point Lookout, May 27, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fort Monroe, Va.:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with instructions from the War Department, telegraphed May 25, 1864, eight companies of the Twentieth Regiment Veteran Reserve Corps, under the command of Lieut. Col. George A. Washburne, number-

ing 11 officers and 530 men, arrived here yesterday to relieve the Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers, which embarked to-day with 31 officers and 590 men to report to Lieutenant-General Grant in the field.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *May* 27, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Bermuda Hundred, Va.:

In using the words, "Hold the James to City Point," I presume General Grant meant the point you now occupy, above the Appomattox and opposite City Point. No name is given to it on my maps. General Grant undoubtedly means that you are to hold your present fortified position. Advices from Fort Monroe were that there was no officer of sufficient rank in command to control affairs at that place (Norfolk, Portsmouth, Yorktown, and their dependencies), and to secure concert of action; that, to accomplish this, in your absence, there should be a district commander over the whole, acting under your general instructions. No particular irregularities were specified by inspection report. Rebels seem to be making a desperate stand on the South Anna, and General Grant thinks that Lee has been heavily re-enforced from Richmond. General Smith should take every possible precaution in landing on the Pamunkey. Transports ordered here are already on their return.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
May 27, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 7. p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

At the request of General Smith I send to ask if the point of debarkation can be changed to West Point. The river from that point to the White House is narrow, tortuous, and filled with torpedoes, and no known landing exists on the north side of the Pamunkey at the White House. At West Point the wharves were repaired under my direction before we left for this point, and the landing can be perfectly covered by gun-boats and a safe depot made there, if desirable. General Smith thinks time will be saved by the change in the order.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BERMUDA, *May* 27, 1864.
(Received 4 p. m.)

Col. J. W. SHAFFER:

Since yesterday noon eighteen steamers have arrived from Colonel Biggs; one yet to report, which will make the nineteen advised by

him. Two have reported as sent from Alexandria, the Perot and Varuna, and there are eleven plying here and in the adjacent waters, and that were here discharging cargo and now ready for service. Total here and ready to receive troops or other cargo, twenty-nine.

GEO. S. DODGE,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 27, 1864.

R. O'BRIEN,
Butler's Headquarters:

I want you to prepare for work in direction of White House from Williamsburg without delay. I do not know to what extent it will be necessary to continue working line to Butler's present headquarters, but hope we may be permitted to abandon it all to enable you to bring away operators, builders, and material. The line from Williamsburg to White House and beyond is of greatest importance; it will be the only means of communication with Grant, and must be built without a moment's delay. I need a building party from here to commence work at White House, continuing thence to Grant's headquarters. Confer with Sheldon as to plans and route to build upon. Answer quick. You must use all the arbitraries in your cipher. Important words should not come in English. Leave "snow" out. Butler's headquarters to work cipher with his card key, and direct him to use great care.

T. T. ECKERT.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 28, 1864.

MR. SHELDON,
Telegraph Operator, Fort Monroe:

I should have no doubt that the telegraph route most easily protected would be across the York at Gloucester Point, thence up to West Point, thence across the Mattapony between the two rivers. The route by the old road and New Kent Court-House would be broken all the time until General Grant crosses the Chickahominy.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GILLMORE'S,
May 27, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Will it be practicable for me to get the wire which I spoke of in my dispatch of yesterday? I recommend its use in front of the intrenchments.

Your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 27, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

The commanding general directs that you order Lieutenant Beecher, commanding Battery A, Fifth U. S. Artillery; Lieutenant Hunt, commanding Battery L, Fourth U. S. Artillery, and Captain Elder, commanding Battery B, First U. S. Artillery, to report immediately in person with their commands to Major-General Smith for duty. They are wanted this evening.

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 27, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

The major-general commanding directs that you detail fatigue parties to report at 7 a. m. daily to Captain Suess at the redoubt on the right of General Marston's old headquarters, to Captain Eaton near the Curtis house, and to Lieutenant Parsons in front of Battery No. 3. These details to be made until the works are finished.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Write letter for daily detail.

General Kautz, 200 men to report to Captain Suess, Volunteer Engineers, at redoubt on right of General Marston's old headquarters. General Terry, 150 to Lieutenant Parsons.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding:*

A report reaches me that it is in contemplation to reorganize Ames' and Turner's divisions of the Tenth Corps. Can this be true?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—8.25 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding:*

In the present reduced force under my command, and the amount of work yet to be done on the main line, I suggest that work on the redoubt near Curtis' house be suspended for the present. I do not see any use of the redoubt, for if the main line is ever carried this redoubt will not stop an enemy's pursuit.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 27, 1864—9 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

The major-general commanding directs that the work on the redoubt near the Curtis house be suspended for the present, and that Captain Eaton, with his detail of engineers, report to me to-morrow at 8 a. m. for duty.

WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864—9 p. m.

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
First Connecticut Artillery:

You will please take charge of the construction of sand-bag loop-holes on the parapet of our line, from the left of Ames' old line to the extreme right next James River. Five sand-bags to each loop-hole, loop-holes to be 5 feet apart from center to center for infantry parapet, and 3 feet in the batteries. If you require more men than you can furnish please let me know.

Respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 27, 1864.
(Received 29th.)

Capt. ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to request that the Tenth Connecticut Volunteers be relieved from doing picket duty to-night. This regiment last night at dark was ordered to report to Colonel Howell, to man the parapet upon his front; it lay in the water and mud and dew all night, and is broiling in the hot sun to-day. Colonel Otis reports to me that the regiment is as much fatigued, if not more, than if they had been on picket at the front in the shade; that he cannot be responsible for the proper performance of picket duty by the regiment, the officers and men of which are so fatigued. Besides, Colonel Howell informs me that he cannot relieve it until his pickets are relieved. I would respectfully ask that I may be allowed to send daily one regiment or more on picket, according as my proportion of picket duty shall be fixed, and that the force detailed from my brigade for picket duty may be as nearly as practicable posted on my front.

By this arrangement I should be able to man the works in my front at all times with about three regiments, who know their places and the ground in front of them, and when the pickets fall back they will also fall back to their proper command and position, besides the regiments will thus be enabled to picket the same ground, acquiring thereby a perfect familiarity with their positions. If I may be allowed to suggest, I would respectfully state that, with my command I will, in my judgment, be able to defend the right of our

line so far as to include Battery No. 2, and a third of the space on the left of it to the Central road, and if the general should deem it absolutely necessary, I would accept the whole right as far as to the Central road, and then be able to furnish daily one regiment for picket duty and one regiment for fatigue. Soon as the general shall determine what portion of the line is to be defended by the Third Brigade, I will immediately encamp my regiments accordingly.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. M. PLAISTED,
Colonel Eleventh Maine Vols. Comdg. Third Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 27, 1864.

Colonels ALFORD and BARTON:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you immediately get your command in readiness to move this p. m.

Very respectfully, &c.,

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864.
(Via Fort Monroe. Received 9.15 p. m.)

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

General Smith desires me to ask that 3,000 axes and 4,000 handles, 3,000 spades or shovels, and 600 picks and 750 handles be sent to Yorktown, subject to my order, as soon as possible.

W. W. VAN NESS,
Acting Chief Quartermaster

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Fort Monroe, May 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

SIR: Agreeably to your request, I called yesterday on Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, and Captain Lawrence, Ninth New Jersey Volunteers. I found Captain Lawrence too weak to tell me anything coherently. Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart avers that early in the morning, before the general attack was made, the enemy made two cavalry attacks, and then dismounted to try it again, but he was not certain that they made the third attempt. The first two attacks were handsomely repulsed. Colonel Stewart reported each time to General Heckman.

Very respectfully, &c.,

F. U. FARQUHAR,
Captain, U. S. Engineers.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, 18TH ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864.

The tents of this command will be struck and the troops held in readiness to march.

By command of Brigadier-General Brooks:

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 27, 1864.
(Received 8 p. m.)

General HINKS:

You and Colonel Duncan will come to these headquarters immediately. It is important that you get here as soon as you can.

BUTLER,
General.

MAY 27, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Colonel SHAFFER:

Where is General Butler to-night?

HINKS,
General.

MAY 27, 1864.
(Received 9.15 p. m.)

General HINKS:

At his old headquarters. Come at once.

SHAFFER,
Colonel.

MAY 27, 1864—9.05 p. m.

General KAUTZ:

I am informed that there is some trouble about your picket-line. Please superintend in person the posting and instructing them, to guard against surprise to-night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 72. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, Va., May 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. G. F. Shepley is hereby placed in command of the District of Eastern Virginia, comprising Fortress Monroe, Yorktown, Williamsburg, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 27, 1864.

Lieut. W. R. KING, U. S. Engineers:

Will you please inform me how the torpedoes, which were the cause of the fearful accident yesterday, were conducted from the the ordnance depot to the cars? Who was in charge of them, to watch them while being loaded on the cars? In whose charge were they while they were on the cars? Were they carefully watched, and in whose hands did they fall on their arrival at Batchelder's Creek? It is reported now that these torpedoes were placed in an open wagon with no one but the driver with the wagon; that they were exposed at the depot the same as barrels of provisions, and that at Batchelder's Creek they were turned over to a party of negroes to trundle into the commissary store-house, with no one to watch them. I do not believe these stories, and I wish you would give me a true statement of all the circumstances as far as you know them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 28, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

Your letter of the 26th is received, and measures taken to immediately carry out your wishes.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, *May* 28, 1864—10.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

Nothing will leave here for Port Royal after 12 o'clock to-morrow. It is expected that everything for the Army of the Potomac and everything from that army will have reached that point by June 1, when General Abercrombie has been directed to break up the depot and transfer it to the Pamunkey. It is presumed that General Smith will have reached there by that time.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

As General Burnside will hardly be up this side of the river to-day, General Warren has occupied an independent position—that is, he has closed in his right to the river, along a little stream marked on the map as rising near Mrs. Edwards'. I send you a map with

the position of Warren indicated roughly by a broken pencil line. Please return the map to me. I do not know your line further than that it is to be on Wright's left, and send you this sketch, as it may modify your left until Burnside comes up.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I received your dispatch respecting the connection of your line with General Warren's and your advanced brigade, which I referred to General Meade, but as yet have received no directions respecting the matter.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that you should either withdraw your brigade at Haw's Shop or advance your line to that point. He considers it desirable that your position should cover the road from Haw's Shop past Dr. Pollard's, in order that the road may be used for movements of troops, but if in your judgment your present line gives a better position than the more advanced one retain it. General Burnside is ordered to move from the vicinity of Hanovertown bridge to Haw's Shop at early daylight and take position with his right on your left, and extend so as to cover the road from Haw's Shop past Norman's. Warren will throw forward his whole line to correspond and cover the left flank. Information received from prisoners and deserters leads to the belief that the enemy is in strong force in our front and may assume the offensive to-morrow morning, and the commanding general enjoins great vigilance from an early hour to-morrow.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 28, 1864—11.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have decided to withdraw the advanced brigade at Haw's Shop, as I do not consider it practicable to get the troops on as new and as good a line of battle as the present at an early hour to-morrow.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 28, 1864.

Division commanders are directed to have the men under arms at daylight, and to see that the picket-lines are well established and properly commanded. Information is received to the effect that the enemy is in strong force, and may assume the offensive to-morrow morning. Good roads for artillery must be made in rear of and along the line. Rifle-pits should be arranged to allow infantry and artillery to pass in and out at roads leading to the front.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 28, 1864.

General BIRNEY:

General Hancock directs that you move up to the Hanover Court-House road and form on General Barlow's right. The orderly will guide you to the cross-road.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

MAY 28, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General WARREN:

Captain Livermore reports the pontoon train to have passed headquarters at 9.30 a. m. It is probably at the river by this time. Do you want the canvas pontoon taken up at once and replaced?

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Until the arrival of General Burnside you must extend as much as possible to the right to cover the space he will occupy when he comes up. Did you relieve General Russell this morning? If so, at what hour?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

If there is a great space between you and Hancock, as Burnside cannot be up to-night, you must be prepared to move up in case you are wanted.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Burnside is ordered to move at early daylight to-morrow to vicinity of Haw's Shop, and take position, with his right on Han-

cock's left, in that vicinity, and extend to cover the road from Haw's Shop past Norman's. The major-general commanding directs that you throw forward your line early to-morrow morning so as to continue the position covering that road from Burnside's left to the Totopotomoy, and cover the left flank on that creek. He directs that you make your lines the shortest practicable consistent with the ground, so as to have troops available for other purposes than holding the rifle-pits thrown up. General Burnside has similar instructions. Information derived from prisoners and deserters induces the belief that the enemy is in strong force in front, and may assume the offensive to-morrow.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864—11 p. m. (Received 11.15 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN:

A construction party will be at your present headquarters early to-morrow morning to extend the line to your new position. Please give the party the necessary instructions. Inform them how to reach General Burnside's headquarters.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 28, 1864.

The major-general commanding directs that men found straggling away from the column be brought back by shooting at them.

By command of Major-General Warren:

S. M. MORGAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
Pamunkey River, May 28, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that the head of my column has arrived and is now being massed, awaiting the completion of the bridge, which is nearly finished. The river is too deep for fording, and no communication has been yet had with the other side.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
Mrs. Hundley's, May 28, 1864—8.20 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My troops are crossing the bridge and massing this side, preparatory to taking position. Crump's Creek and Swamp are no obstacles to infantry, according to the report of the cavalry, their skirmishers

having moved over both without difficulty. So far as I can see, there is no good position for covering the flank of the line, but I shall learn more definitely soon, as I am just going out to examine the ground. The two roads from Hanover Court-House crossing Crump's Swamp are said to be very good.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
Dr. Pollard's, May 28, 1864—11.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch* of —— a. m. received. One division of my troops is in position, and the second, which, with the artillery, has been delayed by some accident to the bridge, will soon be. I have two brigades and three batteries on west of Crump's Creek; the remainder will be on this side. It was absolutely essential to the safety of the right flank to hold the other side of Crump's Creek in considerable strength.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that the enemy is in strong force about 1 mile in your front, and it appears probable may assume the offensive to-morrow. He enjoins great vigilance on your part, and especially before and at daylight and the early hours of morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you move at early daylight to-morrow morning by the road from Hanovertown to Haw's Shop (printed on the map Harris' Shop), and take position with your right connected with General Hancock's left, at or in the vicinity of Haw's Shop, and your left extended so as to cover the road running from Haw's Shop past Norman's to the Totopotomoy, as far as your line extends. General Warren, whose line is now nearly a mile in rear of this road, will throw forward his line and continue the position from your left to the Totopotomoy, and extend so as to cover the left flank. The major-general commanding directs that you will make your front as short as the nature of the

* Not found.

ground will admit, so as to have a force available for other purposes than the defense of the line of rifle-pits, which should be thrown up immediately upon your occupancy of the ground. Information received from prisoners and others leads to the belief that a large part of Lee's army is already in our front, and the commanding general desires to have the army in position, intrenched, at the earliest possible moment.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 28, 1864—11 p. m.

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that one division of my command is now in camp on the south side of the Pamunkey, and the others are coming in. There was considerable delay caused in getting them across the bridge, in consequence of the cutting of one of the trains of the Fifth Corps just before the column reached the bridge. I think the road is now clear, and I hope to get the last of the command in camp by 1 o'clock. My headquarters are between those of General Warren and the bridge.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE.

ARTILLERY HDQRS., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864.

Capt. JOHN EDWARDS,
Commanding Reserve Artillery, Ninth Corps:

CAPTAIN: Your report of yesterday is just received. General Meade directs that you take your command to Washington, either by water, if transportation can be procured at Port Royal, or that you march across the country, via Dumfries. If it is not considered safe for you to march, you will telegraph to Washington for an escort. There is telegraphic communication from Port Conway. You will have to be ferried across at Port Royal. Look out for yourself, and get across the river as soon as you can.

Respectfully, &c.,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 28, 1864.

The order of march to-day will be as follows: First, the wagon train, in charge of sufficient guards to assist them; second, General Willcox's division; third, General Potter's division; fourth, General Crittenden's division. General Crittenden will instruct his rear guards to force up all stragglers. General Willcox will start at 6.30 o'clock, or as soon thereafter as the road is well clear of wagons.

The Thirty-fifth Massachusetts will, under the direction of Major Morton, repair the ford over Reedy Swamp and build a foot bridge. The attention of division commanders is called to the direction given to have an efficient officer constantly in charge of their trains.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness to move at 6 o'clock this morning. The crossing has been secured at Hanovertown by the Sixth Corps, and the cavalry are pushing out on all the roads leading to Richmond. If possible, arrangements will be made to place you either in the advance or center.

I am, general, your obedient servant,
EDWARD M. NEILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864—6. p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Rebel prisoner reports Ewell's and Longstreet's corps 4 miles from here, where they saw them marching to keep pace or head off our army. A negro who left Richmond this morning saw large trains near Shady Grove, also large number of infantry. My losses to-day will be about 350. I am bringing a large number of rebels, wounded. I found a number of Springfield rifles, all new and most of them broken at the small of the stock.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your command and take position at Haw's Shop. You will then have your command in readiness to make a reconnaissance. The general directs that you hold the points you now have on the Totopotomoy Creek.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, on joining your division, be dismounted and its horses turned over to the dismounted veterans of your command.

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD CAVALRY DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
Mangohick, Va., May 28, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. J. W. FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

COLONEL: A very intelligent man from the First South Carolina Volunteer Infantry has just come into my command, having left Hanover Junction this morning at 6 a. m. He is communicative and says there are no troops of any kind north of the South Anna, all having left last night, as he heard, for Ashland Station. His division, commanded by Colonel Hunt, Early's corps, left the intrenchments about 1 o'clock yesterday. He saw at least six brigades marching out toward Ashland on Wednesday or Thursday night, and understood that the intentions of this movement was to prepare for an anticipated movement on our part across the Pamunkey at Littlepage's or Old Hanovertown. There has been talk among Lee's army for several days that this would probably be Grant's next movement, and that the result would be a great battle somewhere between the stage road from Mechanicsville to Piping Tree Ferry and Ashland Station. It was his impression, from the fact that intrenching tools had been issued, the country would be fortified and the old policy pursued. I send the man, Hancock, to your headquarters. He is a citizen of Virginia and well acquainted with the country on the Tuckahoe, where his wife resides. He wishes to get her out and can probably be made useful as a guide if any operations are pushed in that direction. I have sent an application to have Captain Andrews, Eighth Infantry, detailed for duty with me. Cogswell agrees to the detail. Please approve and request it.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded, for information of major-general commanding.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding Cavalry Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Camp near Navy-Yard, Washington, May 28, 1864—6 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

Your dispatch of yesterday received about 11 p. m., and the transportation called for at once, that previously held in hand having

been used for the wounded. I am a little uncertain, as it is not mentioned in your orders, if you wish the material specially ordered to be ready by the last of April, or my regimental and siege tool teams, but to make sure shall take them unless you countermand them before I leave here.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

PORT ROYAL, *May* 28, 1864.

General BENHAM:

Please send 400 chesses, 500 balk lashings, 2 coil cables, and 25 long balks. Please have the above shipped to White House.

H. V. SLOSSON,
Captain, Fifteenth New York Volunteer Engineers.

MANGOHICK CHURCH, VA.,
May 28, 1864—7 a. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Port Royal, Va.:

The army is now at and near Hanovertown, and everything coming forward to it you will please send to that place and by way of that place.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 28, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Port Royal, Va.:

Nothing will be sent from here to Port Royal after 12 o'clock to-morrow. Troops will be retained to guard last trains to the army. It is expected that everything from the army will have arrived by the 1st of June, and that your depot will then be broken up and transferred to the York and Pamunkey. Veteran Reserve guards will be taken with you. Illinois cavalry will be sent back.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

PORT ROYAL, *May* 28, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Troops as follows have reported to-day and will be sent forward with a large supply train: Colonel Howard's Second Maryland Volunteers, 160 men; Major Addicks' One hundred and fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, 250 men; Colonel Winslow's Fifth New York, 300; Colonel Grimshaw's Fourth Delaware, 513; different detachments, about 850; in all, 2,073. Seven hundred men, different detachments in a battalion, commanded by Captain Pease, Seventeenth Infantry, went forward this a. m., guarding a train. Fredericksburg was abandoned this a. m.; the garrison has arrived

here. The wounded at the Wilderness safely brought in and shipped, with the exception of some at Robertson's Tavern, within the enemy's line. Those from Milford are all in. An empty train on its way from the army was attacked 4 miles from here by a small band of guerrillas, 1 or 2 men slightly wounded. Thirteen wagons were destroyed. This, I think, was owing to want of precaution on the part of the guard. Some of the mules belonging to the train escaped and came in. Colonel Cesnola, Fourth New York Cavalry, who has just arrived from Fredericksburg, reports a force of rebel cavalry, supposed to consist of two regiments under General Rosser, in that neighborhood. One of the Ninth Virginia Cavalry captured by my scouts to-day. By the 30th I hope to abandon this place for the Pamunkey. Colonel Clendenin will then return by land with the Illinois cavalry to Washington. The whole of the Invalid Battalion will have to be transported to the White House by water, as the march from Belle Plain has completely knocked them up. I have received no instructions from General Grant since my arrival here until this evening, when he telegraphed an order to move everything by Hanovertown.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Royal, Va., May 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have your communication of 26th instant, in relation to officers of the Fourth U. S. Infantry. I expect to leave this place on 30th instant, for White House, Va. There shall be no delay in forwarding these officers to their regiment. Seven hundred and fifty men went forward to the Army of the Potomac this a. m., guarding a train; 2,650 men, in battalions and detachments, leave here in the morning for the front, with a large train. This leaves me, for the protection of the depot, about 1,400 men (infantry), 700 of whom are from Invalid Corps, and cannot march; the rest are detachments from many regiments that I have organized and made serviceable. Also two batteries artillery and 2,000 cavalry, mounted and dismounted, the latter serving as infantry. All will be mounted at White House and sent forward to you. The garrison of Fredericksburg has just arrived, about 3,000 strong—1,000 cavalry, and 2,000 infantry, stragglers, squads from Camp Distribution, &c. These will be forwarded shortly.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Royal, Va., May 28, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I regret very much the pontoon train could not be sent to you much sooner, but two substantial reasons have rendered the delay unavoidable. When your order was received, one of the trains

had not arrived from Fredericksburg, and the other afforded the only means we had of landing supplies, which, I understand, are very much needed by the army. Again, having no animals, I have been compelled to take the horses from reserve artillery here, to haul it out, and before they could be used, it was necessary to use the Fredericksburg train or boats, to cross the horses from the opposite side of the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY FORCES,
Port Royal, Va., May 28, 1864.

Capt. ROBERT L. ORR,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: In conformity with orders from your headquarters, dated 25th instant, I have the honor to report that I started from Port Conway for Fredericksburg at 10 a. m., same date, with 300 men from the Fourth New York Cavalry. I arrived at Fredericksburg at 3 p. m. and reported as ordered to Colonel Schriver, military governor of Fredericksburg. He had just been relieved, and I found in his place Colonel Staunton, Sixty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He gave me instructions to proceed at 5 a. m. on the 27th for the Wilderness, with a detachment of the Twenty-second New York Cavalry, one squadron of the First Rhode Island Cavalry, and 500 infantry, which, including my command, numbered a force of 1,000 men, the object of the expedition being that of recovering our wounded men left in the woods within the enemy's lines. I arrived at the Wilderness at 12 m. on the 27th, without any serious opposition, encountering a few of the enemy's scouts on the plank road at Chancellorsville, who were immediately dispersed by a squadron of the Fourth New York. I arrested several prowlers, who would give no satisfactory account of themselves, who were lurking around in the woods. As soon as I arrived at the place where our wounded were, the surgeon in charge of the ambulances, with great activity, had them comfortably placed therein; the surplus ambulances were used to bring away all serviceable Government property, destroying that which could not be transported. After recovering our wounded, my orders confined me to act as an escort and protection to the ambulances, yet having more troops than were needed for this purpose, and being anxious to ascertain the whereabouts of the enemy, if any, I advanced the Fourth New York Cavalry to a point where the plank road forks. On each of these roads I sent a squadron, and after proceeding a short distance met the enemy's pickets on the road leading to Germanna Ford, which were driven in. An encampment was here discovered, which was afterward ascertained by prisoners taken to be a portion of Hampton's command, supposed to number 500 men. It was also ascertained that Germanna Ford was picketed by General Rosser's forces, but where the main portion of his troops lay could not be discovered. I am sorry to say some 400 more of our wounded men yet remain in the hands of the enemy, farther in their lines. I started with my command at 2 p. m., and arrived safely with the wounded and the

whole of my forces at Fredericksburg in the evening. The next morning, according to your order, started for Port Royal, taking the south side of the Rappahannock, where I arrived at 6 p. m.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DI CESNOLA,
Commanding Cavalry Forces.

HEADQUARTERS SAINT MARY'S DISTRICT,
Point Lookout, Md., May 28, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fort Monroe, Va.:

MAJOR: I respectfully ask permission to make another raid with 300 men into Virginia to procure horses and other property much needed in the quartermaster's department here, and on our contraband farms on the Patuxent. My last expedition, May 11, was successful. Another regiment is to report here. If the major-general commanding approves, I would like to make these raids whenever it appears to be necessary.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 28, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Bermuda Hundred:

General Grant's order was to White House. I cannot make any change. Probably General Smith can communicate with him from West Point by express sent up north side of the river.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 28, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

As I informed General Halleck in my dispatch of 8.30 of May 26, I had already got my best troops into a movable column for the purpose of offensive operations. My defensive line is in such position as to be safe to leave it with the dismounted cavalry, the invalids, and a few good troops. I found that the rebels had uncovered Petersburg, and its importance as a depot to them cannot be overrated. I had proposed to attack the place to-morrow morning, with every prospect of success, but the imperative orders transmitted through General Halleck, and the arrival of the transportation, although not sufficient, in my judgment, but yet sufficient to begin with, rendered necessary a change of order. General Smith embarks to-night. I have now left here one division and two regiments of infantry, invalids, dismounted cavalry, and artillery. Much of the light artillery I shall send away as soon as my transports return. I regret exceedingly the loss of this opportunity upon Petersburg.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 28, 1864.

MY DEAR WILSON:

You do not seem to have received my letter of May 7. I therefore inclose a copy of it.* After very considerable experience with General Gillmore I see no cause to alter any suggestion in it. You will allow me to say that there is not a word of truth in the report about Gillmore's supposed advice to me in regard to fortifying our lines before Drewry's Bluff. I have his written contradiction of it, which I have forwarded to the Evening Post, where the story was started by an officer of his command for his own self-glorification. I am convinced, and I think it is the judgment of any well judging officer, that General Gillmore is not fit for the command he exercises. I take leave to inclose to you also a copy of our correspondence and a copy of the newspaper article, which you may not have seen.

I am, truly, yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Maj. Gen., Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and N. Carolina.

WASHINGTON, *May* 28, 1864—12 noon.

Generals BUTLER and GILLMORE:

The Richmond and Danville and the Richmond and Gordonsville Railroads are 5 feet gauge, and the other roads west of Richmond are 4 feet 8½ inches gauge. The roads in North Carolina are 4 feet 8½ inches. If you can keep the road between Richmond and Hicksford cut anywhere, it will prevent the rebels from withdrawing the rolling-stock on the Virginia railroad. In the removal of this rolling-stock they can afford to make a desperate struggle, and it is worth much to prevent their success.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 28, 1864—11 a. m.
(Received 11.15 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. D. H. RUCKER,
Chief Quartermaster:

Your dispatch in cipher received. You are mistaken. We have no forage afloat at this place, and but three or four days' supply in store for animals in vicinity. Lieutenant Webster reports forage afloat at the front, and the requisitions of General Butler for reserve supply, about which I telegraphed you and Quartermaster-General, are but partially filled, and Colonel Shaffer, chief of staff, is writing daily to hurry up the remainder. Am sure General Butler will not consent to withdrawal of any forage from Bermuda, and General Meigs informed me in conversation that large reserve supplies should be held there. Therefore, no supply for Army of the Potomac should be expected from here, unless sent additional to my estimates. I have but one York and Pamunkey River pilot now here. The rest are up the James. They and the water transportation are

* See Butler to Wilson, Part II, p. 518.

engaged in movement now taking place. I will collect as many as possible at Yorktown and place them under charge of the quartermaster there, to be ready when called for.

HERMAN BIGGS,
Chief Quartermaster.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 28, 1864—5 p. m.
(Received 6 p. m.)

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL U. S. ARMY:

All our water transportation is up James River, and I presume our troops are aboard. Sent the Helen Getty, with 2 pilots, to Captain Pitkin, and the stern-wheel General Howard to General Rucker. I will send more to General Rucker as soon as they arrive.

H. BIGGS,
Chief Quartermaster.

BERMUDA, *May* 28, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

Transportation for about 20,000 men is now in the river; about thirty steamers and twenty barges, all told.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

BERMUDA, *May* 28, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

I am prepared to turn over to General Smith's quartermaster water transportation for his command as soon as he is here to receive it. General Ames' division is ready to embark.

GEO. S. DODGE,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

BERMUDA, *May* 28, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

In addition to the twenty-nine steamers just reported, I have twenty-three single-deck barges and one double-deck ready for service.

GEO. S. DODGE,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

BERMUDA, *May* 28, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

Only one steamer reported from Washington.
By order:

GEO. S. DODGE,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

BERMUDA, *May* 28, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

The dispatch boats were not included in the estimate forwarded you.

By order:

DODGE,
Captain.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 28, 1864.
(Received 12.15 p. m.)

Captain AILEN,
Assistant Quartermaster:

The Pamunkey is navigable for vessels of 5 to 5½ feet draught as far up as New Castle.

A. S. KIMBALL,
Captain, Assistant Quartermaster.

FORT MONROE, *May* 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

We must run telegraph to reach Grant. Two routes are in view; by the old road from Williamsburg direct to White House, thence up north side of Pamunkey River, or across at Yorktown and up north side York River, crossing the Mattapony to West Point and thence up that peninsula. Will the commanding general indicate which route he can best protect; and, also, give the necessary orders for the protection and assistance in the work? It must be done as soon as possible.

G. D. SHELDON.

FORT MONROE, *May* 28, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Since sending my dispatch General Halleck has given his opinion that the north side of York River is best route, as it can be guarded by small force.

G. D. SHELDON.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 28, 1864.

[Major ECKERT:]

On consulting General Carr, commanding at Yorktown and Williamsburg, he says: "It would be practicable to run a telegraph from Gloucester to West Point if the country was occupied by our forces. I think the old road from Williamsburg to West Point the best." I fear we will be troubled to get guards by either road, as everything appears to be absorbed by present movements.

G. D. SHELDON.

GILLMORE'S,
May 28, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have not seen Colonel Serrell since you issued the order to him to report to General Wild. The order was sent to him at once and Major Graef was in command of regiment yesterday and is to-day. I presume the colonel obeyed the order at once and is now with General Wild. Shall I send and ascertain?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

P. S.—I have just heard that Colonel Serrell did go to General Wild yesterday.

Q. A. G.

GILLMORE'S,
May 28, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL,
Assistant Inspector-General:

There are in position on the line of defense eight light batteries. Seven batteries are in reserve and six 12-pounder mountain howitzers.

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Artillery.

FLAG-SHIP SIGNAL STATION,
May 28, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General TERRY:

Cavalry and wagons in considerable number have passed during the last hour or two from about Cox's toward your front.

LEE,
Admiral.

12.40 P. M.

Respectfully forwarded for General Butler's information.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S,
May 28, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

How many men, roughly estimated, are here to hold the line from James River to Appomattox? I merely want the round numbers.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S,
May 28, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

The reorganization of Ames' and Turner's divisions, Tenth Corps, under strange commanders, will materially diminish the efficiency

of those divisions. On this ground, and this only, I earnestly request that no steps of the kind be taken or allowed. Generals Ames and Turner are educated, accomplished, and efficient soldiers, and have the entire confidence and the most zealous and enthusiastic cooperation of the officers and men of their commands at all times. This frequent change of general officers is ruinous to all efficiency.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 28, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

You will cause two 30-pounder Parrotts from the line and 200 rounds of ammunition therefor to be at abutment of pontoon bridge across the Appomattox on this side at 8 to-morrow morning.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 27. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May* 28, 1864.

* * * * * * *

III. The following-named light batteries are hereby organized into brigades to be commanded as follows: Battery M, First U. S. Artillery; Battery C, Third Rhode Island Artillery, and the Thirty-third New York Light Battery, to be commanded by Capt. L. L. Langdon, of the First U. S. Artillery. Battery B, First U. S. Artillery; Battery D, First U. S. Artillery, and the Fourth New Jersey Light Battery, to be commanded by Capt. S. S. Elder, of the First U. S. Artillery. The brigade commanders above designated will report at once to Brigadier-General Terry.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 28. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May* 28, 1864.

1. In obedience to instructions from department headquarters, the following batteries are hereby ordered to report immediately for duty to Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps: Battery B, First U. S. Artillery; Battery L, Fourth U. S. Artillery; Battery A, Fifth U. S. Artillery.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST NEW YORK VOL. ENGINEERS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that one line of wire entanglement along the intrenchments from Batteries No. 1 to No. 6, was

placed last night in conformity with your orders, except a short distance across the swamps between Batteries No. 1 and No. 2, which is being done now.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. E. GRAEF,
Major First New York Vol. Engineers, Comdg.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 9. HDQRS. 1ST DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Curtis', Va., May* 28, 1864.

The light batteries of the Second and Third Divisions, of the Tenth Corps, having been brigaded and ordered to report to the brigadier-general commanding for duty, by Special Orders, No. 27, paragraph III, current series, headquarters Tenth Army Corps, the senior officer of the artillery of this command, Capt. L. L. Langdon, First U. S. Artillery, is announced as chief of artillery on the staff of the division commander, vice Capt. Alfred P. Rockwell, First Connecticut Light Battery, relieved.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 25. HDQRS. 1ST DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS, *Bermuda Hundred, Va., May* 28, 1864.

* * * * * * *

VII. The light batteries of this division, viz, First Connecticut Light Battery, Fifth New Jersey Light Battery, Light Company E, Third U. S. Artillery, are hereby organized into a brigade under the command of Capt. Alfred P. Rockwell, First Connecticut Light Battery, to whom the commanding officer of the two batteries last mentioned will report at once.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

* * * * * * *

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., May* 28, 1864.

Colonels ALFORD and BARTON:

COLONEL: By direction of major-general commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, you will report in person immediately to General Martindale, commanding Second Division, Eighteenth Army Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HANOVERTOWN, VA., *May* 28, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH, *Comdg. Eighteenth Corps:*

The Army of the Potomac is now crossing to the south side of the Pamunkey River, and massing at this place. The most of it has already crossed. You will leave a garrison at the White House until it is relieved by General Abercrombie's command from Port Royal, and with the remainder of your command move direct to New Castle, on the south side of the Pamunkey, and there await further orders. Order the garrison left by you at White House, on being relieved, to follow after and join you.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 28, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH, *Via Fort Monroe:*

General Grant directs that on reaching White House you will put the railroad bridge there in condition for crossing troops and artillery and leave a force sufficient to hold it. Ask General Butler to give you artillery enough for that purpose. The railroad bridge corps will immediately leave Alexandria with men and materials for executing the work. As soon as you occupy the place telegraph here your progress in ascending the river and landing.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 28, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Received 6.15 a. m. 29th.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Am now embarking. I will proceed as rapidly as possible to West Point or White House, according as I find it best to land, to secure the railroad bridge at White House. I have three batteries, all I deem necessary, and all certainly that I have transportation for. I will telegraph my progress from time to time, but I shall send a brigade on fast steamer and a battery of artillery to secure the bridge in advance of my arrival with the main body.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 28, 1864—1 p. m.

General SMITH:

The artillery you desire shall be ordered to report to you. I have doubts upon the subject of that picket-line of General Hinks. I think it had better be from Broadway up to Spring Hill so as not to excite attention, and you can mass your troops between it. Then let General Hinks go forward in the morning and capture the pickets, if possible, as you go ahead. I have asked General Weitzel to confer with you upon that subject.

Very respectfully, yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., May 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: I would respectfully request that the chief of departments on your staff send all instructions affecting the supplies for my command through these headquarters, as such instructions often conflict with those given by me.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

MAY 28, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General SMITH:

As Petersburg is now uncovered you will take your movable column, prepared for that purpose, and cross the river by the pontoon bridge and attack Petersburg. General Hinks will aid you with his brigade of troops according to the plan verbally agreed upon last night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 28, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department of Virginia, &c.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that the orders for the movement of to-morrow, for my command, may be furnished to me to-night in writing.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 28, 1864.

Major-General SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The transportation for your column having arrived, although in my judgment not sufficient, yet, in consequence of imperative orders from General Grant, your column will move to his assistance. You will use the utmost expedition in embarking and getting on. If you desire any cavalry to accompany you, please designate what regiment or battalion. I grieve much that this weakness of the Army of the Potomac has called the troops away, just as we were taking the offensive, and that the attack on Petersburg, which was agreed on to take place to-morrow morning, must be abandoned, but it is so ordered, and, however, against our wishes and judgment, we must obey. I propose to give you every facility in going off. You will have to use great caution in going up the Pamunkey and in getting into White House. The torpedoes in the water, or a well arranged surprise on land, would bring your expedition to grief. As you will not have the advantage in going away which we had in

coming, your destination will be exactly known by the rebels the moment you start. Indeed they have heretofore predicted it in their newspapers.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 28, 1864.

Major-General SMITH:

Would it not be better to send Onderdonk's cavalry, or a portion of it, who are still mounted, instead of Cole's, to assist General Hinks in the picket duty?

BUTLER,
Major-General.

MAY 28, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: I think it would be better to send a portion of Colonel Onderdonk's command, mounted, to assist General Hinks in his picket duty.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

FLAG-SHIP SIGNAL STATION,
May 28, 1864—8.30 p. m. (Received 9.07 p. m.)

Major-General SMITH:

There are only two gun-boats at Yorktown. Only one could get up, if there are no torpedoes to prevent. The Morse was lately there and will aid you if you wish.

LEE,
Admiral.

FLAG-SHIP SIGNAL STATION,
May 28, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General SMITH:

Your message to-night is the first official notice I had of your movement. I have just ordered one gun-boat and two armed tugs to join Captain Babcock at Yorktown.

LEE,
Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS HINKS' DIVISION,
City Point, Va., May 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Dept. Virginia and North Carolina, in the Field:

GENERAL: It is reported that on Sunday, the 22d instant, 2 men of the Twenty-second U. S. Colored Infantry, who were captured

by the enemy on the 21st instant, in the attack on Fort Powhatan, were shot to death in Petersburg at a place called the "Gallows," designated for the execution of condemned criminals. Five other prisoners have been captured from this division since it has been in occupation of points upon the James River, of whose fate nothing is known at these headquarters. I respectfully request that investigation may be had to ascertain if the above-mentioned report is true, and to determine what disposition has been made of the other 5 prisoners alluded to. I also request that Private Heaton, of the Twenty-fourth Virginia Regiment, who was captured on the 18th instant, and all the prisoners captured from General Fitzhugh Lee, at Wilson's Wharf, on the 18th instant, be held for execution in retaliation for the murder of the soldiers of the Twenty-second Regiment, and of any other soldiers of this division who have met with a like fate, if the above report is proved to be true.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

MAY 28, 1864—5.30 p. m.

General BUTLER:

No dispatch has been received. Has one been sent? Shall I take any action?

HINKS,
General.

MAY 28, 1864.
(Received 7 p. m.)

General HINKS:

Nothing will be done to-night. Telegraphed you at length.

BUTLER,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 28, 1864.

General HINKS:

In consequence of the imperative orders to embark at once General Smith's column in aid of General Grant, and the arrival of the transportation therefor, the attack on Petersburg, from which we hoped so much, must be postponed.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 28, 1864.
(Received 9.45 p. m.)

General HINKS:

Four deserters from Fort Clifton, and works near there, have just come in from across the river. They report Fort Clifton mounts five guns—three 30-pounders and two field pieces. Another fort

very near up the river mounts two 28-pounders. One still above mounts one 30-pounder. Garrison of Fort Clifton only 300 men. Field-works extend from Fort Clifton to Swift Creek, along the high ground, with several forts on the line. Much dissatisfaction among the rebels there. Some 50 others wish to desert their regiments. At Fort Clifton they fear these works at Spring Hill, which they say are for the benefit of Fort Clifton. They expect to see the woods on the bank cut and fire to open very soon. The deserters also report two heavy guns (200-pounders) gone down the river on this side, leaving Petersburg on the City Point road. One, a sergeant, says he saw the guns, and saw them leave in this direction. They were said to be for the purpose of sinking the gun-boats on the James River. The force in Petersburg they think quite small, but do not really know. Works south of the city slight. Report all valuables being sent away from Petersburg. All railroads are repaired and hard at work. I will send these men up in the morning. They are very intelligent, one an orderly sergeant.

AMES,
Colonel.

MAY 28, 1864.
(Received 7.40 p. m.)

General HINKS:

You will please look out for General Martindale's command, which will cross the Appomattox and march to City Point to-night. Do not mistake them for the enemy.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

MAY 28, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General SMITH:

Have reached City Point, and await orders.

J. H. MARTINDALE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Hanovertown, May 29, 1864.
(Received 12.10 p. m. 31st.)

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington, D. C.:*

The army has been successfully crossed over the Pamunkey and now occupies a front about 3 miles south of the river. Yesterday two divisions of our cavalry had a severe engagement with the enemy south of Haw's Shop, driving him about 1 mile on what appears to be his new line. We will find out all about it to-day. Our loss in the cavalry engagement was 350 killed and wounded, of whom but 44 are ascertained to have been killed. Having driven the enemy, most of their killed and many of their wounded fell into our hands.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 29, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Barlow has advanced 3 miles on the road from this point and has reached the forks leading to Hanover Court-House and to Cold Harbor. He has passed the scene of yesterday's cavalry fight, 1½ miles. He neither sees nor hears of anything of the enemy. From all I can learn I am under the impression the enemy has withdrawn behind the Chickahominy, but as yet this is only surmise. Nothing reported from General Wright or Warren. No firing heard.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HAW'S HOUSE, *May* 29, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

General Barlow reports meeting a skirmish line of the enemy supposed to be cavalry. The people in the vicinity tell him there is a line of battle 1 mile ahead on Southard's Branch. Barlow is advancing to ascertain the true state of the case.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 29, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General MEADE, *Second Corps Headquarters:*

It will be well to keep the troops that have gone in search of the enemy to the front and close up on them in the morning, or, if you think their position unsafe, strengthen the front to-night. If the enemy has gone behind the Chickahominy the trains should all be brought to the south side of the Pamunkey in the morning. Your dispatch of 3.30 just received since writing the above. If the enemy is found in the position described by General Barlow, he had better be supported before making the attack. They are probably only covering whilst getting everything well ready to receive us on the south side of the creek.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HAW'S SHOP, *May* 29, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Barlow has met the enemy in force about 4 miles from this point. He reports artillery in position and infantry in rifle-pits. In accordance with your dispatch I have directed General Hancock to support him, and he is now moving out with his corps. General Griffin met the enemy about 1 mile from the Totopotomoy on the road to Shady Grove, and is now skirmishing with him. General Warren is prepared to support him. General Wright reports his reconnaissance being within one-fourth mile of the railroad. Hanover Court-House in sight; only cavalry pickets encountered. He will be directed to hold his advance position and support them if necessary.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 146. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *May* 29, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. The battalions of the Fourth New York Foot Artillery, serving with artillery brigades of the Fifth and Sixth Corps, will join the battalion of their regiment in the Second Corps, and will be relieved in their present duties by details from the foot artillery regiments now with the Fifth and Sixth Corps.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Capt. C. E. PEASE,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Headquarters Fifth Corps:

General Burnside has not yet reached here. If you cannot find where his headquarters are likely to be, you can return. Let the construction party await orders at General Warren's until they can ascertain where General Burnside will be.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 29, 1864—11 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Hancock and General Burnside desire that the construction party run the wire out the main road from where General Warren was this morning toward Haw's Shop. General Burnside is now here and says his headquarters will be at Thomas' house, which is near the main road leading to Haw's Shop. Please telegraph the construction party at General Warren's to push out the wire at once. General Hancock's headquarters will be at or near Haw's Store during the present reconnaissance. Until the line is run out to General Burnside dispatches for General Hancock will have to be sent through General Wright's headquarters. If you have any instructions for me I will await a reply here. Please answer.

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—8 a. m.

Brigadier-General PATRICK:

GENERAL: It is reported to me that there are a great many stragglers recrossing the river at the bridges. You will immediately send a guard down to each of the bridges to arrest all such persons, officers, and men. Also send back some cavalry to bring up

stragglers and communicate with General Wilson at Mangohick Church, and obtain from him any additional force necessary to drive up stragglers.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
May 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The deserter (Hancock) from the First South Carolina Infantry, reported by General Wilson, came with other prisoners sent in by the cavalry a few minutes ago, and states as follows: He was born in South Carolina, married in Virginia, and has lived here since 1861; was conscripted in 1862 and furnished a substitute; was brought in by the last act and assigned to the First South Carolina Regiment. He has never been in a fight, has been present with the army only partially since February, and knows very little of it. He says that early this spring all the brigades, divisions, and corps were disbanded and mixed up together; that brigade and division commanders were changed and exchanged for each other; that regiments were taken here and there from every brigade and put into others; like exchanges in each case so as to keep the numbers equal; that his brigade has been commanded by Perrin, Brown, McGowan, &c.; that the Fifth and Sixth South Carolina Regiments have been taken out of it and put in some other brigade, he does not know what, &c. He says he came into our lines at Hanover Junction, or near the railroad there, yesterday morning; that the troops left Hanover Junction day before yesterday, their rear passing the South Anna at 1 p. m.; that Hill's corps went last. This is all he knows of the order of their going; that some troops went away the night before; what they were he does not know. He was on cooking detail in the rear of his division and saw troops pass across the South Anna and southerly during the night. He wants to take the oath of allegiance and go north to Maryland, where his mother-in-law lives.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel and Deputy Provost-Marshal-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
May 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: An examination of prisoners taken by the cavalry shows that Fitz. Lee's division, Hampton's division, two new regiments South Carolina cavalry, and one of Georgia lately come from the south, composed the force of the enemy engaged. The prisoners nearly all state that they were dismounted, and acting as infantry. They give no information concerning the infantry, and few of them are willing to talk, but one says that a large wagon train

(of between 100 or 200 wagons) was passing in their rear yesterday during the fight. A negro sent in by General Wright states that he was lately a servant at General Fitz. Lee's headquarters; went to Allen's Station with the cavalry; stopped at Allen's for the infantry to pass. General Ewell's corps passed late day before yesterday p. m., going in the direction of Mechanicsville. He knows nothing about Hill or Longstreet.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

MAY 29, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Scouts sent out on left this a. m. returned. Report that they went to within half a mile of Gibson's Mill on the road from Totopotomoy Creek to Mechanicsville. Met infantry there and were fired upon. Saw about 20. They had bayonets. Think it was a small reconnoitering party sent from the right of Lee's line to watch the road. Other parties are out on different roads. Will report on return.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
May 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Gibson's Mill is about 4 miles north of Cold Harbor, on a branch of the Matadequin Creek. Gibson's house is on the sheet marked Ed. May 2, 1864, on the road from Mechanicsville to Old Church, and the mill just above it. Plough, who went out this a. m. to the right, went as far as Taylor's Ford, nearly opposite Hanover Court-House, on the Pamunkey. He found the ford obstructed by felled timber, and was unable to cross; could see nothing of the enemy, and learned from people at the mill there that nothing had been seen of the enemy there since the first advance of our troops, or, at all events, since night before last. He reports a large quantity of corn, say 6,000 bushels, in a barn on Taylor's farm, 1 mile from the ford.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Second Army Corps:

The following movements are ordered for to-day, and will take place at 12 m. punctually: First, Major-General Wright, Sixth Corps,

will push out a reconnaissance with a division, artillery with it, on the roads running from his position to Hanover Court-House, and will support the reconnaissance with his whole corps if necessary. Second, Major-General Hancock, Second Corps, will in like manner throw forward a division, with artillery, on the road from Haw's Shop to Hanover Court-House, and support the reconnaissance, if necessary, with his whole corps. Third, Major-General Warren, Fifth Corps, will also push forward a division, with artillery, on the road to Shady Grove, and support it, if necessary, with his whole corps. Major-General Burnside, Ninth Corps, will hold his corps ready to move to the support of either Hancock or Warren. He will send out a reconnoitering force, which will advance between the roads on which Hancock's and Warren's reconnaissance moves, and keep up communication between them, and ascertain the ground between the two roads. Fifth, engineer officers and topographers will be assigned to each of the four reconnaissances to collect all requisite information.

By command of Major-General Meade:

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

(Same to Warren, Wright, and Burnside.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general directs that you advance your line so that your left will unite with the right of General Burnside at Haw's Shop.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Second Army Corps:

General Warren is ordered to take position from Haw's Shop to mouth of Mill Creek on the Totopotomoy. General Burnside is ordered to hold his corps in reserve massed in rear of Haw's Shop ready to move either to the Second Corps or to the Fifth Corps. The commanding general considers it necessary that your line should be advanced as heretofore directed. The changes of position are not to interfere with the reconnaissances and contingent operations ordered for to-day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 29, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army of the Potomac:

My line is being moved forward as rapidly as possible to cover the road to Haw's Shop, connecting with General Burnside. At 12

o'clock the reconnaissance will commence by General Barlow's division. My headquarters will be at Haw's Shop during the reconnaissance. Until the telegraph wire is completed up to General Burnside, all dispatches for me should be sent to my present headquarters, where I shall have my adjutant-general and orderlies to forward them.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 29, 1864—2.50 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: General Barlow's column, moving on the main Richmond road, has arrived at the junction of the Cold Harbor and Hanover Junction roads. Colonel Brooke's brigade was sent by road to the right at Aenon Church. The skirmish line has struck a cavalry skirmish line at this point. It is reported by a woman near by that they have a line of battle on Southard's Branch, a small stream about a mile ahead. General Barlow will leave a brigade and section of a battery at this point and push on the right-hand road toward Hanover Court-House. He thinks there is nothing but cavalry ahead of us. He will meet Colonel Brooke about 1½ miles, where the Aenon Church road crosses into the Hanover Court-House road. I know nothing definite as yet, but will communicate at once if anything occurs.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. WILSON,
Captain and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
May 29, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: General Birney reports an infantry force on his right; a section of horse artillery in General Barlow's front. General Barlow has directed Colonel Brooke to proceed with great caution, throwing but a regiment across the river at one time. The greater part of the One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania is across. General Barlow is building his bridge over the river.

Very respectfully,

H. H. BINGHAM,
Captain and Judge-Advocate.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 29, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: General Barlow reports that he has found the enemy in some force on the Totopotomoy Creek (which runs to the north farther than indicated on the map), about 1 mile from the junction of the Cold Harbor and Hanover Court-House roads, where a line of works can be seen. The enemy appear to be moving to the right and left, manning their works. A contraband reports the road to

Richmond "lined with troops," and says he counted twenty guns on the left of the road, in front of General Barlow. General Barlow has seen but three or four. I have sent word to General Barlow to make no attack, unless he receives further orders. His skirmishers are 1,000 yards or so from the works. The contraband referred to has arrived. Expecting you, I keep him here. The position of General Barlow is 4 miles from here, on the Meadow Bridge road. The map appears much at fault.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Move up your whole corps to-morrow morning at early daylight, and take up a position in front of the enemy. Wright will be ordered to move down to your right, and Burnside will be ordered to form a connection between your left and Warren.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—8 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Barlow is now lying on the Totopotomoy River, with his left resting on the Cold Harbor and Hanover Court-House road, and his right resting on road to Atlee's Station. General Birney, connecting with General Barlow's right, crosses the Hanover Court-House road, 1 mile from the Totopotomoy. Our skirmish line is within 250 yards of the Totopotomoy, reaching from the Atlee's Station road to the Cold Harbor road, and from the Atlee's road the line bears to the right of the Totopotomoy Creek—the right about 1,200 yards from same. The ladies at Colonel Shelton's residence give the name of the creek as Totopotomoy, and that the creek is miry on either bank below the ford. I will send you a lengthy dispatch soon as to my observations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have just returned from the front. When I arrived there I found General Barlow thought the position in front too strong for attack, and he had not examined sufficiently far to the right or left. I subsequently went down to the skirmish line and examined the position very carefully. Just in our front there is an immense open space; a wheat-field, which extends also between

Shelton's, in the center, and the creek. We have from the crest of this field near Shelton's a somewhat more elevated position than the enemy. They have epaulements for their guns, and two lines of rifle-pits as far as can be seen.

The banks of the creek, except at the crossing, are steep and abrupt, but not very high at the crossing, and indeed along there appears to be no obstacle to crossing owing to the stream; the high bluff and the enemy's guns apparently being the only obstacles. The enemy's troops did not attempt to conceal themselves. I should suppose there was a brigade there; from the smoke of fires some distance back, it appeared as if there were many troops there right and left. Our whole open space is swept by their artillery back to the Cold Harbor and Hanover Court-House road, where their shells fall. We can put batteries on that plain within 600 or 800 yards of them. The movements of the corps, to unite, ought to be made at the earliest hour; for if the enemy choose to cross and attack our isolated commands, it looks to me as if it could easily be done; the country is very open.

I placed Birney in line with Barlow; Barlow covering the road to Cold Harbor, and Birney that to Hanover Court-House. The lines of battle connect on the Richmond road. The enemy are working. They have some abatis about the crossing, it is so reported. They have at some points skirmishers on this side of the creek. I have ordered them to be driven back, wherever found in my neighborhood. Cavalry might to-night connect the corps, driving the enemy's cavalry and skirmishers across the stream. I shall direct epaulements for the batteries to be placed to-night within 600 or 800 yards of the enemy's, connected by rifle-pits, as far as possible, in the darkness.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—9.30 [p. m.].

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that as General Warren's whole corps will be on the south side of the Totopotomoy, you should have two divisions on General Barlow's left, and but one on his right. General Wright is ordered to make connections with you on the right, moving at daylight.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 29, 1864.

General MEADE:

GENERAL: I have but three divisions; one is now on the right of the Richmond road, and one on left. The other I ordered to mass in rear, but will place on the left, in accordance with the tenor of your dispatch.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

A negro tells me to-night that the stream in my front is called Swift Run; the white people tell me it is the Totopotomoy.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864.

The command will move at 5.30 a. m. as follows: Second Division, First Division, Third Division, and Fourth Division. Wagons will be parked near the river on this side until the troops are in position. The reserve batteries will cross immediately after the troops. The regiments of heavy artillery will move as at present assigned. As far as practicable troops will move in parallel columns on the sides of the road.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—9.50 a. m.

When the movement is ordered to-day it will be in the following order:

First Division, Brigadier-General Barlow; Third Division, Major-General Birney; Second Division, Brigadier-General Gibbon. The troops will be ready to move precisely at 12 m. Detailed instructions will be given hereafter. At 12 m. General Barlow, with his division and artillery, will make a reconnaissance from Haw's Shop toward Hanover Court-House, to be supported, if necessary, by the whole corps.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 139. HDQRS. SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864.

I. By direction of the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac, the Fourth Division of the corps, known as the division of heavy artillery, will be broken up, and the troops distributed to the remaining divisions as follows:

To the First Division, Second New York Artillery, Colonel Whistler; Seventh New York Artillery, Colonel Morris. To the Second Division, Eighth New York Artillery, Colonel Porter. To the Third Division, First Maine Artillery, Colonel Chaplin; First Massachusetts Artillery, Colonel Tannatt. The commanding officers of these regiments will report at once to the officers commanding the divisions to which they are assigned. Officers of staff departments rendered supernumerary by this order will report to the chief of their departments at these headquarters.

II. Brig. Gen. R. O. Tyler will report to General Gibbon, commanding Second Division, for assignment to the command of a brigade.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 29, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that I am pressing forward my skirmish line as directed. In one part of the line they are across the stream and find a strong line of skirmishers well posted. I will press on as far as possible and inform you of developments.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
At crossing of Hanover C. H. and Cold Harbor road, and road from Haw's Store to Richmond,
May 29, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I reached this point with my division at about 2 p. m. to-day. Driving in the few skirmishers of the enemy, I reached a point where the Richmond road crosses the Totopotomoy Creek. The western bank of the creek is held by the enemy in force; they have a line of works on the bank of the creek well filled with infantry in line of battle. In the part of the line which could be seen there were several pieces of artillery in the first line. In the rear of this first line there were several detached works and gun covers. One of these works contained two pieces and another one piece of artillery. I think there were three works, with two pieces each, besides single guns. There was a second line of infantry in line of battle.

I think their line crosses the Hanover Court-House and Cold Harbor road. At least they have a strong line of pickets across the road about one mile from this point, and a force that I advanced against the pickets this afternoon received a heavy fire, and reported a line of battle. I shall inquire further in the morning. The enemy's line of fires to-night is heavy, and extends on both sides of the Richmond road. They are chopping, and apparently fortifying the line which crosses the Cold Harbor road. The Totopotomoy seems to be an insignificant creek, but the banks in our immediate front are steep. I think the ground on this side the creek commands the enemy's work, and that a heavy force of guns would render their line untenable, and enable us to cross.

I have the honor to be, colonel, respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

P. S.—I sent Brooke's brigade this afternoon on the road leading from this point to Hanover Court-House. He communicated with pickets of General Wright on the road to Ashland. He found cavalry and a section of artillery but no great force. I could make no communication with Generals Burnside and Warren.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you furnish Colonel Tidball with such details for fatigue as he may require to-night. He has been directed to put in as many batteries as practicable on the crest near Shelton's. These batteries are to be well covered and connected by a line of rifle-pits, which must be manned by daylight. The major-general commanding thinks that your sharpshooters should be posted along this line, the rifle-pits being manned by, say, a brigade of infantry. The remainder of the troops will be placed along the line of the Hanover Court-House road. They should throw up cover from the enemy's shells. General Barlow will attend to all the work to be done on the left-hand side of the Richmond road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. } HDQRS. 3D DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864.

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II. In pursuance of Special Orders from headquarters Second Corps, this date, the First Maine Artillery, Colonel Chaplin, is assigned to Third Brigade, and the First Massachusetts Artillery, Colonel Tannatt, to Second Brigade. The commanding officer of these regiments will at once forward a field return and a roster of their officers, and join the brigades with their regiments.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. BIRNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

My command has been ready to move since daylight, but the road has been occupied by the Ninth Corps, which has all passed on toward Harris' [Haw's] Shop, extending to Norman's. General Crawford is moving out on a road to the left of my line, which will bring him in his right position. I am informed that there is no enemy in that front. I sent two officers back for General Lockwood yesterday. They ran against a squad of the enemy's cavalry at Saint Paul's Church and were chased some miles. General Burnside found Wilson's cavalry at Mangohick Church, having taken the route of the Sixth Corps. From the forced marching we have made some men necessarily failed to keep up, and as none of our cavalry followed our route, I expect a few rebel cavalrymen will get them all. General Lockwood is not far back on his way here, and will be up I expect to-day.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

General Lockwood will probably join me to-day. If there are no serious objections raised, I would like to put General Lockwood in command of the old Second Division (General Robinson's), which has its wagons, staff, and all complete, and distribute his command in the best manner to the old divisions. I shall assign Colonel Kitching to General Crawford. This will be the most harmonious and efficient arrangement that can be made. I presume I have authority in myself to do this without reference to you, but as I can refer it as well as not before acting, I respectfully do so.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864.

Approved.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you take position from Haw's Shop to the mouth of Mill Creek. This change of position is not to interfere with the movements ordered to-day. Burnside will be held in reserve in rear of Haw's Shop.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 29, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The pontoon train belonging to the Sixth Corps, which followed me on the march, were turned off to Mrs. Hundley's on the march yesterday, and Major Ford with my engineers with them. They cannot be needed there, I think. If so, will you direct them to be sent back so that they may be prepared to help me in any movements of my corps.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I now understand all about the engineers of my command having been sent above. They are now all back to Hanovertown and working the roads so as to have two good approaches to that crossing.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—11.50 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Has General Lockwood's command joined you yet, or have you heard from it?

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

General S. WILLIAMS:

General Lockwood joined me this morning.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Norman's House, *May* 29, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Griffin's division has moved out on the road to Shady Grove. It carries him 1 mile south of Totopotomoy before it branches off to the west. After his advance had moved in that direction about half a mile they struck the enemy's infantry skirmishers on the road south. Only the enemy's cavalry are to be seen. Negroes report that the enemy is in force at Shady Grove, on the north side of the Totopotomoy. My line is now established, and my troops disentangled from the Ninth Corps. Our position gives us no use for artillery. I am now going out myself with the reconnoitering force.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—6 p. m.

General WARREN:

Barlow meets the enemy in position and force 4 miles from here. Hancock has been directed to support him, and is moving out for that purpose. Wright has got within one-fourth of a mile of the railroad. Hanover Court-House in sight, only meeting cavalry. Keep Griffin up to the enemy and support him. Burnside is in reserve on your right flank and rear to assist you if necessary.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 29, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

Should you move your headquarters to-day the telegraph line will be extended to you via Haw's Shop, to which point the line is now being run.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I have just returned from a personal examination of Griffin's front. Due south, and I believe also to the east of that line, there was no enemy discovered. After moving up the Totopotomoy, on his first setting out, he ran against the enemy's infantry about 1½ miles west of this north and south line and withdrew his force without the enemy following; again he struck the enemy where the road turns southwest toward Shady Grove; some sharp skirmishing along a narrow front was all that occurred here. Four regiments of infantry were seen to move from this point southeasterly and the skirmishing was continued until dark. Between this point and the Totopotomoy the country is in some cases cleared, in others wooded. The valley of the stream is in many places difficult to move in except in thin lines. If the enemy should be to-morrow as we have found him to-day it would require my whole corps south of the Totopotomoy. General Burnside might cover the space between that stream and General Hancock, and connection be kept up over the bad country by strong skirmish lines well supported. I would like to be informed of the country held by our cavalry south of me.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

General Hancock is directed to move forward and take position in front of the enemy. Burnside will form on Hancock's left and you will form on Burnside's left. As the enemy apparently were close to you this p. m., it is presumed your left will not be greatly advanced. I have received no report of General Griffin's operations or progress since leaving your headquarters. Please report.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch of 8 p. m. received. General Sheridan's pickets are at Linney's, Old Church, Powell's Tavern, and Tignor's. He is directed to connect his pickets with yours and keep up the connection.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—1.30 a. m.

Division commanders will be ready to move forward their commands at 5 o'clock this a. m., to take up a new position in their front.

First Division, Brigadier-General Griffin, will take the road on the right. Third Division, Brigadier-General Crawford, will move by the road on the left. An officer will be sent from these headquarters to point out the way.

By command of Major-General Warren:

S. M. MORGAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—11 a. m.

As soon as possible the following movements will take place: General Griffin, with his division and two batteries, will make a reconnaissance toward Shady Grove, crossing at the mouth of Mill Creek. General Crawford and General Cutler, with their commands, will take up position on the east side of Mill Creek, extending from Haw's Shop to the Totopotomoy Creek, and be prepared to move forward to the support of General Griffin at a moment's notice. The rest of the artillery, with Colonel Kitching's command, will move up to the position assigned to Generals Crawford and Cutler. Headquarters will be at the house occupied by Norman, on the road from Haw's Shop to the north of Mill Creek. General Lockwood's command will remain till further orders at Dr. Brockenbrough's.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

General Griffin will keep up, as far as may be, communication with General Burnside's reconnaissance on his right, but will not delay movements on this account.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 128. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864.

I. In compliance with orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the One hundred and eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, brought to this army by Brigadier-General Lockwood, will proceed to join the Second Brigade, Second Division, Second Army Corps.

II. Brigadier-General Lockwood having reported for duty, is assigned to the command of the Second Division, Fifth Army Corps. Colonel Lyle, commanding First Brigade, Second Division; Colonel Bates, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division; Colonel Dushane, commanding Third Brigade, Second Division, will report to Brigadier-General Lockwood without delay.

III. The following assignments are hereby ordered and will report to the brigade commanders to which they are assigned at 4 a. m. tomorrow, the 30th instant: Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers, Col. E. W. Peirce, to Third Brigade, First Division, Brigadier-General Bartlett; Purnell Legion, Col. Samuel A. Graham, to Third Brigade, Second Division, Colonel Dushane; Forty-sixth New York Volunteers, Colonel Travers, and Third Delaware, Lieut. Col. W. B. Dorrell, to Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Colonel Hofmann; Ninety-fourth New York Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Moffett, to First Brigade, Second Division, Colonel Lyle.

IV. The brigade of heavy artillery, Colonel Kitching commanding, is assigned to Third Division, Fifth Army Corps, and will report to Brigadier-General Crawford at 4 a. m. to-morrow, 30th instant.

By command of Major-General Warren:

S. M. MORGAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 29, 1864—10 a. m.

General GRIFFIN and
General CRAWFORD:

Mass your troops and remain in position till you get orders. Instructions are being prepared for us.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 29, 1864—3 p. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: The enemy is reported on my right in force, a heavy line of skirmishers and a line of battle. His line is on the side of the stream opposite you. I am across and the head of my column about 1 mile of Old Church. A negro reports that all the darkies say the enemy's force is at Shady Grove.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

The enemy's cavalry in my front, but no large force so far.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Norman's House, May 29, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

I have just received your note saying the head of your column at 3 p. m. was within 1 mile of Old Church. If you have not mistaken the name you have the road. You were to go toward Shady Grove, which lies southwest from here, while Old Church is southeast. If you can consult Captain Paine and Captain Mackenzie they will probably tell you whether you are on the right road or not.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 29, 1864—3.55 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

General Griffin is in my front on the Mill Creek road. His skirmishers are now engaged with the enemy. I am on the Totopotomoy, my left resting there, my right connecting with General Cutler. I have pickets on the Smith's Mill road, which runs along my front, and connects with Second Corps. General Griffin has asked me for a regiment on each flank, as he is about to advance.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Haw's Shop, May 29, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

What progress has your advance made? Barlow is 3 miles from here at the forks of the Cold Harbor and Hanover Court-House roads. Hears and sees nothing of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
Jones' House, May 29, 1864—4 p. m.

General MEADE:

Your dispatch received. Russell was advancing at last report, meeting no opposition except from small parties of cavalry. Am expecting further report every moment, which will be promptly transmitted. Russell ought to be 3 or 4 miles out by this time.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

JONES' HOUSE, *May* 29, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The force on the upper of the two roads has advanced about 3½ miles without incident, having met only a few cavalry. It is now on the main road to Richmond, about 1½ miles from Hanover Court-House, where I have halted it to await your instructions. The force by the lower road has made about the same progress. It is reported that there is no force about Hanover Court-House except a few cavalry. A sign post on the main road referred to says 17 miles to Richmond.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864. (Received 5 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Lieutenant-Colonel Kent, who accompanied the brigade of the First Division, commanded by Colonel Penrose, has just reported that the brigade is within a quarter of a mile of the railroad, Hanover Court-House in sight, and that there are a few cavalry scouts of the enemy in the distance. General Wright has not yet returned.

C. H. WHITTELSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—5.15 p. m. (Received 6 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

At 4 p. m. the force by the lower road was on a range of hills running nearly north and south with railroad, a few hundred yards on opposite side of bottom land. Court-House on opposite heights, about one-quarter of a mile in front. Cavalry in small numbers in front.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—5.30 p. m.

General WRIGHT:

General Barlow reports that 4 miles from here he meets the enemy in position and force. He has been directed to maintain his position, and Hancock is moving out to support him. It will be necessary your advanced parties should maintain their positions, and you will, therefore, move such portions of your force as may be necessary to make their position secure. Warren meets them about a mile from his left flank, on the Shady Grove Church road. They seem to have a line covering the railroad, but your position will enable us to secure the railroad, and perhaps the Junction.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—6.45 p. m. (Received 7.10 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I have sent two brigades to Russell, and will move the whole corps if necessary, as I would prefer doing, at any rate unless you desire to hold on to our present line. I shall soon learn from Russell what additional force he needs. Should I move more than at present ordered it will be virtually an abandonment of my line, and the entire force might as well be moved forward, leaving, say, a small brigade to look after trains and surplus artillery.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

General Hancock is directed to move out and take position in front of the enemy. You will form your corps on his right. In doing this you will move down from your present advanced position and endeavor to place yourself on the enemy's flank. This movement of your corps will be made at daylight to-morrow morning.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 29, 1864.

A reconnaissance will be made at 12 m. in the direction of Hanover Court-House under the direction of General Russell. The commanders of the Second and Third Divisions will place their commands under arms at that hour and hold them in readiness to move promptly to General Russell's support, if required.

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
May 29, 1864.

Lieut. Col. M. T. MCMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sixth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to represent, for the action of the major-general commanding Sixth Corps, that two of my best and most reliable brigade organizations are about to be entirely lost to the service of our cause for the following reasons: My (old) Third Brigade, Colonel Bidwell, Forty-ninth New York Volunteers, commanding, is so depleted by losses on various battle-fields as not to equal numerically a regiment of infantry. The organization and appointments of the brigade are perfect. The troops are mostly New York troops; therefore it is desirable that troops from that State may be ordered to re-enforce this command. Colonel Bidwell is the oldest colonel in the New York State regiments, and I believe the oldest in the army. He has been recommended for promotion as brigadier for gallant conduct in the former and late battles. My present Fourth Brigade, Col. Oliver Edwards, Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding, will lose all his regiments but one on the 6th, 11th, and 21st of next month by expiration of term of service. Colonel Edwards has been recommended for promotion as brigadier for gallant and persistent fighting on the Angle. If practicable, Massachusetts troops would be preferred here. The tone, spirit, and efficient organization of these commands ought not to be lost to the service. Any troops, however indifferent, might be ingrafted, but by their well-earned reputation these brigades deserve the consideration of troops from the several States.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. H. NEILL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 4, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac. When any re-enforcements are assigned to the corps the two brigades referred to will receive such proportional numbers as will enable their brigade organizations to be kept up.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the commanding officer of the Sixth Corps.

Cannot these brigade organizations be kept up by assignments from other portions of your command, providing re-enforcements cannot be had?

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

It will be impossible to fill up these organizations from the present command without breaking up others, and I must depend upon re-enforcements for the purpose.

H. G. WRIGHT.
Major-General, Commanding.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864.

Respectfully returned to commanding officer of the Sixth Corps.

As soon as any re-enforcements are sent to this army they will be assigned to the Sixth Corps in proportion to its strength compared with the other corps of this army.

By command of Major-General Meade:

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 10, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Brigadier-General Neill.

Please see indorsements.

By command of Major-General Wright:

C. H. WHITTELSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I commenced the establishment of my line from Norman's to Haw's Store, and upon reaching the latter place I found that I made no connection with Hancock. In following down the road I found that his left was about 800 yards in rear of my right, and I understand from General Birney that you authorized him to establish his line there. Shall I connect with him? My men are very weary, being almost constantly on the road for two days and nights.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I would most respectfully state that I think the line now occupied by Hancock is a stronger line than the one now ordered, and a road can be cut in rear of our lines for the movement of troops. I am at General Hancock's now; am waiting an answer.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that your right near Haw's Shop remain as it is. General Hancock is directed to advance his line and unite with your right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Warren is ordered to take position from Haw's Shop to the mouth of Mill Creek on the Totopotomoy. The commanding general directs that you hold your corps in reserve, massed in rear of Haw's Shop, ready to move to either the Second or the Fifth Corps. The change in your position does not interfere with the reconnaissances and contingent operations ordered for to-day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major- General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

You will move your corps to-morrow and take position on General Hancock's left, fronting the enemy's line. You will communicate with General Hancock, and so soon as you have ascertained his position and his left you will move forward. You will send staff officers in advance to examine the ground and post the troops. General Warren will be on your left and will be directed to communicate with you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Wilson reports that he sent a battalion out on the road over which the Fifth Corps marched; that there was a provost guard in rear bringing up all the men that had fallen out. General Wilson is encamped about 6 miles out, in rear of all the army trains. He has reported that he has not seen General Lockwood, and does not know where he is, or that he was coming. The forage trains for the corps are coming via Dunkirk.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
New Castle Ferry, May 29, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A rebel prisoner from Ewell's corps, captured to-day on the Shady Grove road, reports Ewell's corps as having marched to Mechanicsville yesterday, passing by the cross-road in front of where the cavalry were fighting yesterday. The corps encamped on that road last night.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
New Castle Ferry, Va., May 29, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

My headquarters are now at New Castle Ferry. My pickets are established at the following points: Linney's, Old Church, Powell's Tavern, and Tignor's. General Wilson's command is in camp 2 miles from Hanovertown, on the north side of the river. All the trains are up. I have ordered General Wilson's command to report here to-morrow.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you have your command saddled and formed at 4 a. m. to-morrow. Cavalry Corps headquarters will be at a house on the left-hand side of the road and at New Castle Ferry.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Near the Mill, May 29, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Cavalry Corps:

Your dispatch inclosing copy of communication from General Humphreys is received. I have driven in all stragglers found, and made dispositions to find all that may be between here and Chesterfield Station. I don't think there is any enemy on the north side of the North Anna, as I have discovered none "in holding the fords successively as they were abandoned by the infantry and in covering the rear of the army." I moved by the Chesterfield and Mangohick road and occupied Mangohick till Colonel Schriver had passed, who informed me that there was nothing in his rear. In addition to this, I patrolled the Bowling Green road 5 miles northward. I

am sure, therefore, there are no stragglers on the route of the army, except as such as may have been concealed in places out of the way. But to render this certain and to more surely cover the roads, I have left one regiment on the road near Dabney's with directions to put an advanced guard at Mangohick and patrol in all directions, particularly toward Taylor's Ferry.

I have sent another regiment to the finger-board which marks the point where the Bowling Green road leaves the Aylett and Chesterfield roads, with directions to follow the road across Reedy Swamp to the Bowling Green and Mangohick road, bringing all persons belonging to the army. This disposition, it seems to me, covers the original rear of the army. As for General Lockwood, I know nothing definite; but Captain Goddard informed me this morning he was coming on the road from Aylett's. I did not suppose that I would be required to look after him, having received no notification of his movement, but since your note I have sent a staff officer back on that road with orders to find the Second Ohio, if possible, and order it to put itself behind everything, bring up all stragglers, patrol in all directions, and communicate frequently. Finally, Chapman's brigade is near the junction of the road to Dunkirk with the one to Mangohick, that is, near Dabney's. McIntosh is near here by the mill pond. If I knew exactly how many trains were yet to pass, I could say precisely whether or not to send over more troops on the various roads. I am quite sure my dispositions are ample, but if you think best I can move back to Mangohick with the entire division. The stragglers shall all be sent in as soon as the trains and cattle have all passed, so that the scalawags can be selected. The country shall be patrolled in every direction from there.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
May 29, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to headquarters Army of the Potomac, to show the condition of the trains, &c., in rear of the army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General. Commanding.

MAY 29, 1864.

Brigadier-General RUCKER:

No further shipments of troops or supplies will be made to Port Royal, Va. General Abercrombie has been directed to send forward to General Grant's army everything now on the way, and to have everything away and the depot broken up by the 1st of June. The depot will be transferred to the Pamunkey River, and everything hereafter for the Army of the Potomac will be sent to White House.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copies sent to Surgeon-General, Commissary-General, and the commanding officer Department of Washington.)

MAY 29, 1864.

Brigadier-General RUCKER:

General Abercrombie thinks he will get everything off to-morrow, and be ready to remove his depot. As his Invalid Battalion of guards cannot march, he will require transportation for them by water to White House. Please order it. General Smith's advance should be at West Point to-morrow.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—Notify General Abercrombie of last vessel sent to Port Royal.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General.

PORT ROYAL, VA., *May* 29, 1864.
(Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

I omitted in my last telegram to report that between 400 and 500 contrabands were shipped last evening for Washington; also that I have picked up and sent to the front over 2,500 stragglers.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 29, 1864—2.16 p. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Port Royal, Va.:

General Rucker will furnish water transportation for your Invalid guards to White House. General Smith's advance will be on the Pamunkey to-morrow. The [Eighth] Illinois Cavalry will protect the telegraph party in removing their line.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Royal, May 29, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: Upward of 400 contrabands were shipped last evening for Washington. I have also apprehended over 2,500 stragglers, whom I shall send to-day or to-morrow under guard to the army. I have received no instructions myself as to abandoning Port Royal. From information derived through the Quartermaster's Department, however, I understand the basis to be the White House, on the Pamunkey, where I shall proceed with the Invalid Battalion, all of whom are completely knocked up by a short march from Belle Plain to this place, and are fit for nothing but garrison duty, and not very reliable for that. On my arrival at White House I will report for further instructions.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Royal, May 29, 1864.

Capt. P. P. PITKIN,
Quartermaster:

CAPTAIN: Commodore Parker informs me your transports are ashore all along the river—guerrillas in the river—and some of them in exposed position. Too much hurry will delay our movements. If you have not pilots, boats should not go down at night. After 12 o'clock to-day nothing will be sent here. You must, therefore, allow sufficient time for boats to arrive from Washington before you break up entirely.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Royal, May 29, 1864.

TELEGRAPH OPERATOR,
Pope's Point, Va.:

Have the Twelfth U. S. Infantry and all dismounted cavalry moved to this point immediately. The Eighth Illinois Cavalry will guard the line.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
On James River, May 29, 1864—10.30 a. m.
(Received 7.10 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Flag of truce just in with papers to the 28th. They report, May 27, 12 noon:

A large force of the enemy appeared and pressed our cavalry back at Hanover Court-House. Prisoners captured from Sixth Corps say that they have orders to move to the White House.

ATLANTA, *May 27.*

Our advance came up with the enemy at New Hope, 4 miles east of Dallas, on Wednesday. Our right rests on the road from Acworth to Dallas, about 3 miles northeast of New Hope, and extends from the latter point nearly west.

CLINTON, *May 24, 1864.*
(Via Summit, 26th.)

Banks has escaped from Alexandria via Simsport. A. J. Smith's corps has gone up to Natchez and Vicksburg. The balance of his army is in full retreat toward New Orleans, at Morganza, on the west bank of the river. Canby has arrived and assumed command.

In view of this news, as the Nineteenth Army Corps is disengaged, I respectfully suggest that it be sent by water, to land here or at West Point in reach of General Grant. General Weitzel, who so well knows the military situation in Louisiana, concurs in the suggestion. It can be here in fourteen days to re-enforce the army, depleted by the battles to be fought in the mean time.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 29, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Col. Robert M. West, of the First Pennsylvania Artillery, was mustered into service July 29, 1862, and has been in service ever since, most of the time at Williamsburg. His regiment was never raised, although accepted, because of the order of the Department in relation to artillery regiments. Governor Curtin has now, at my request, commissioned Colonel West as colonel of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry. Colonel West led that gallant cavalry expedition of the two colored regiments across the Chickahominy. I could not give him his commission, or he would have been ranked by his actual juniors. I ask permission to have him mustered as of his proper rank, July 29, 1862. Colonel West has served nearly three years, and was an old soldier at the beginning of the war.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 29, 1864—6 p. m. (Received 8.39 a. m. 30th.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The following is an extract from the Richmond Examiner of 27th instant: "Trains commenced running regularly on the Petersburg railroad yesterday, 26th." It will be seen, therefore, that we have held the road for three weeks, May 5 to 26. Our prisoners in Richmond are on half rebel rations, so are the rebel soldiers.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *May* 29, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Your telegram of 10.30 this morning is acknowledged. The suggestion as to the disposition of the Nineteenth Army Corps will be transmitted to Lieutenant-General Grant for his consideration. He is apprised of the state of things on Red River and Louisiana, and gives direction to all the Government forces. You can express directly to him your views in respect to their disposition. Our latest information from General Grant's army was their crossing the Pamunkey at Hanovertown, and expected to be all across by noon yesterday.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

BERMUDA,
May 29, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General BUTLER:

The last steamer with troops left here at 12 m. Do not know what time last one left City Point.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

BERMUDA, *May* 29, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: The man Underdue, colored, was confined by order of Colonel Shaffer, chief of staff, for reporting all sorts of stories and trying to raise stampede. Captain Cassels, provost-marshal, afterward received orders from Colonel Shaffer to put Underdue, colored, at work during the day and confine him at night. Captain Cassels, provost-marshal, afterward received telegram from Col. S. M. Bowman, Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania, chief mustering and recruiting officer, U. S. Colored Troops, which was forwarded to Colonel Shaffer, respecting the election of Underdue to the position of chaplain in some colored regiment. In answer from Colonel Shaffer received orders that as Underdue was well, he should be retained.

Respectfully,

M. H. MYERS,
Captain and Provost-Marshal.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 29, 1864—7.40 a. m.

General GILLMORE,
Commanding Defenses, &c.:

Direct an inspection and return at 11 a. m. to-day of all the forces along the line and the reserves, so that we may have to-night an exact account of every man we have and where he belongs.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GILLMORE'S,
May 29, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: I have ordered the inspection and return, and have sent for General Kautz to ascertain exactly how his command is disposed. I will call and see you when I get all the necessary information so as to arrange for a command for Turner.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 29, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

The signal officer from Battery No. 3 reports:

During last night three rebel signal stations could be seen in full operation, but owing to my sickness and headache I was half blind and unable to do anything in regard to watching them. They have also during last two days been at work on the two new works on the other side of the James; also last night two rockets were sent up from that same region. In front of us the rebels are at work in greater force this a. m. than ever before, strengthening their whole line.

N. B. ROBERTS,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—11.40 a. m. (Received 12.23 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding:*

I have seen General Kautz and arranged with him that he will command Mix's and Spear's brigades of cavalry and the artillery on the line they occupy, while Turner takes the extreme left and everything there, both generals to report directly to me. Unless you desire some other arrangement I will issue the order. I feel the want of Colonel Serrell's services very much just now.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 29, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

Dispatch received. Your disposition as regards Kautz and Turner is approved. General Weitzel will do anything in the way of engineering to which General Gillmore does not feel himself competent on our line. Col. Henry L. Abbot is also a very accomplished engineer officer in your command. In my judgment, Colonel Serrell is now of more use in his present position than he can be elsewhere.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 29, 1864—2.15 p. m.

The operator will have this repeated, and will request the other station to have it examined by General Butler before he sends it again.

Q. A. GILLMORE

[Second indorsement.]

MAY 29, 1864—2.15.

General Gillmore has returned my dispatch of 12.30 for examination. I see no word to alter, save that General Gillmore may object to the word "competent." The sense in which it may be used might be objectionable, but there are many kinds of incompetency, one of knowledge, and the other want of time, pressure of other duties, superintendence of details, and supervision [of] works, because of which General Gillmore asked for Colonel Serrell, and to which I have suggested the services of General Weitzel and Colonel Abbot.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 29, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. G. WEITZEL,
General Butler's Headquarters:

There are in position on the line of defense twenty 3-inch ordnance guns, sixteen light 12-pounders, and two 12-pounder mountain

howitzers. In reserve there are eighteen 3-inch ordnance guns, four light 12-pounders, ten 10-pounder Parrotts, and six 12-pounder mountain howitzers, according to returns received this morning. There are in position some guns belonging to light batteries (classed as siege artillery) exclusively under Colonel Abbot's charge. I know nothing about them.

Very respectfully,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieut. Col. and Chief of Artillery, Tenth Army Corps.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 29, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

You will cause two 30-pounder Parrotts from the line and 200 rounds of ammunition therefor to be at abutment of pontoon bridge, across the Appomattox on this side, at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Colonel Abbot, First Connecticut Artillery, will please see to the execution of the within order. Let the pieces be there half an hour before the time specified.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S,
May 29, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Colonel Abbot thinks he can better spare four 20-pounders than two 30-pounders. The latter will of course be sent unless you authorize the exchange.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

MAY 29, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The lookout on the Curtis house reports five steamers at Chaffin's to-day. Admiral Lee knows it. The 30-pounders will be in position to-morrow morning, as directed. The returns asked for and ordered are not in yet.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 29, 1864.

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
First Connecticut Heavy Artillery:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you proceed immediately to make an inspection of the line of works from

the James River to the Appomattox, with reference to the artillery and infantry defense of that line, and the location of troops on and behind it. You will suggest such improvements in the line as you may deem necessary, in the order of their relative importance, reporting in writing to these headquarters as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3. HDQRS. TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 29, 1864.*

The following is hereby announced as the organization of the forces occupying the intrenchments on the left of Brigadier-General Terry's division: Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner, U. S. Volunteers, will command the extreme left of the line and the forces of all arms stationed on the left of Brigadier-General Kautz's command. Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz, U. S. Volunteers, will command the First and Second Cavalry Brigades, commanded respectively by Cols. S. H. Mix and S. P. Spear, together with the artillery which may be in position on the line occupied by said brigades. Both of the general officers above named will report directly to these headquarters.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. HDQRS. TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 29, 1864.*

Col. H. L. Abbot, First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, is hereby announced as chief of artillery for the line of defenses.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BERMUDA HUNDRED, *May* 29, 1864—1.10 a. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 6.30 a. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

General Ames, with 4,000 men and one battery, will leave here at daylight to land at West Point, and march at daylight to-morrow morning to hold the bridge at White House and fortify his position. The other troops will follow as fast as possible with the tows that each steamer has to take. Bridge builders can be sent immediately.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

JAMESTOWN ISLAND, VA., *May* 29, 1864—2 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe. Received 4.20 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

At 11.30 a. m. to-day nearly all of my command were embarked. They will all be at West Point, or, if the Pamunkey River can be run at night, at the White House, early in the morning. I have 16,000 infantry, sixteen guns, one squadron of cavalry. General Ames was ordered to report to you by telegraph the moment he landed. I shall try to communicate at once with General Grant. Shall in the mean time exercise my own judgment to some extent as to the points of debarkation.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

MAY 29, 1864. (Received 1.45 a. m.)

General MARTINDALE:

You will embark your troops as quickly as possible, and proceed with the tows to West Point at as early an hour after daylight as possible, and there await orders.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 29, 1864. (Received 8.45 a. m.)

General HINKS:

You will send the reserve brigade to report on the lines over here. The pontoon bridge will be ready at 2 o'clock, so that you will start at 12 m. Acknowledge receipt.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 29, 1864—9.15 a. m.

General BUTLER:

Dispatch received. The brigade will be ready at 12 m.

HINKS,
General.

MAY 29, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

General HINKS:

Please come over with your brigade.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 29, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Colonel AMES:

You are to remain in command at Spring Hill for the present. You will ration your troops accordingly.

DUNCAN,
Colonel.

MAY 29, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Colonel AMES:

Send Captain Dollard at or before daylight to-morrow morning to capture a rebel picket. I am very desirous to obtain information from Petersburg. Do all you can to obtain a picket.

HINKS,
General.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
James River, May 29, 1864—10 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 6 p. m. 30th. Received 7.20 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Went to Fort Powhatan and Wilson's Wharf to-day. The Pequot, Atlanta, Dawn, and Young America will effectually help the troops. One colored regiment at each place, to hold against great odds these important positions, which the army is fortifying. General Wild had 900 colored troops at Wilson's Wharf, and two 20-pounder Parrotts, and no other artillery, when we were attacked. He says the enemy used no artillery, and were, he thinks, 2,000 strong. He stated to me that the gun-boats were of great assistance to him in repelling their attack.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 29, 1864. (Via Yorktown.)

Maj. T. T. ECKERT,
Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch of 27th has been shown to General Grant, who says [the] line need not be extended farther than White House, as we will probably leave here before it can reach us; cannot tell now where we will meet Bickford, but will look out for him if we get near railroad. Dispatches will be sent from headquarters to White House by messenger. Will advise you as promptly as possible when Grant makes his wants known. Our battery wagon was fired into by rebels while leaving North Anna and broke down, and has been destroyed. No one hurt and nothing but wagon lost. Battery in good working order now, and we are in communication with all corps and working well. Will write by first mail. Dover wants you to send quantity of rubber slips for covering places where connections have been made in field wire.

A. H. CALDWELL.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 29, 1864.

Major ECKERT:

Bickford and party arrived this morning. Have got their six teams complete and a steamer to take them direct to West Point.

Have furnished them everything they wanted and material to make 20 miles with what they had. Teams and wagoners scarce. They left at sundown. Palmer arrived at Yorktown at 11 a. m. to-day; has run line from office to river; is now ferrying his train across river on a barge; says it will take till midnight to finish crossing. He will commence on Gloucester side at daylight in morning. Has everything he wants. I will try to go to Yorktown to-morrow.

G. D. SHELDON.

FORT MONROE, *May* 29, 1864.

[Major ECKERT:]

Butler favors crossing at Yorktown and the north route. J. M. Palmer and party, with Homan and Collins, arrived at Jamestown last night; had to land them there, as they came down on regular dispatch-boat; would have been better if they had come here. They will arrive at Yorktown this afternoon by land. Will hurry the work; will lay the cables and have all ready. Propeller Detroit, with material, arrived yesterday; was sent to Yorktown, and the material is landed on Gloucester side. Operators will be distributed according to orders.

G. D. SHELDON.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 29, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

MAJOR: Affairs in North Carolina remain quiet. I have organized two or three expeditions, one toward Wilmington, and one to try to blow up the ram in the Roanoke. I hope strongly for success, and I will do everything I can with my small force to worry the enemy in this State. An unfortunate accident with some of our own torpedoes a day or two since killed and wounded more than 50 men. It was, in my opinion, the result of the grossest carelessness. I hope to present yet a good account of the force here.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

TWO MILES SOUTHWEST OF HAW'S SHOP,
May 30, 1864—4 p. m. (Received 10.45 a. m. 31st.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

There seems to be some prospect of Lee making a stand north of the Chickahominy, his right near Shady Grove. I have heard nothing yet of Smith's troops reaching White House. If I can get up to attack will not await his arrival. I wish you would send all the pontoon bridging you can to City Point to have it ready in case it is wanted.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding:

GENERAL: A dispatch from Sheridan reports he drove the enemy's cavalry this afternoon, and now occupies Cold Harbor, Parsley's, and the cross-roads from Cold Harbor and Parsley's, connecting with Warren's left. I have advised him of Smith's movement, and told him to keep a sharp lookout for any movement of the enemy in that direction. I have not moved Wright.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE.

[Pencil indorsement.]

Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, will report to, and receive orders from, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, commanding Army of the Potomac, until otherwise ordered.

NEAR HAW'S SHOP, VA.,
May 30, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Is it not evident that the enemy's line is entirely to the left of General Wright's? If he is not already doing so, it seems to me that he should push forward his right as far as possible, holding connection with Hancock with his left.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR HAW'S SHOP, VA.,
May 30, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

General Smith will debark his force at the White House to-night and start up the south bank of the Pamunkey, at an early hour, probably at 3 a. m. in the morning. It is not improbable that the enemy, being aware of Smith's movement, will be feeling to get on our left flank for the purpose of cutting him off, or by a dash to crush him and get back before we are aware of it. Sheridan ought to be notified to watch the enemy's movements well out toward Cold Harbor, and also on the Mechanicsville road. Wright should be got well massed on Hancock's right so that if it becomes necessary he can take the place of the latter readily whilst troops are being thrown east of the Totopotomoy, if necessary. I want Sheridan to send a cavalry force of at least half a brigade, if not a whole brigade, at 5 o'clock in the morning, to communicate with Smith and to return with him. I will send orders for Smith by the messenger you send to Sheridan with his orders.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—10.25 a. m.

Maj. J. C. DUANE,
Chief Engineer, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

There is no very material change in the lines here since last night. General Barlow's skirmish line has advanced to the creek on the left of the Cold Harbor road. The enemy has a Whitworth gun in position and firing on Generals Gibbon's and Barlow's skirmishers. The gun cannot be seen, and it is supposed to be firing at long range. They have also been throwing shells at the Shelton house, where we have a battery. Their guns will be silenced as soon as they can be seen. General Hancock is developing the line of the creek. If there is another officer available I wish you would send him to relieve me some time this afternoon, as it is almost impossible for me to ride. If there is none I can remain. I am now with General Hancock.

CHARLES N. TURNBULL,
Captain, Engineers.

MAY 30, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major DUANE,
Chief Engineer, Army of the Potomac:

General Griffin has moved out on the first road south of the Totopotomoy to within about a mile of the road past Richardson's to Walnut Grove Church. As he advances the skirmishing becomes more obstinate, which leads me to believe that the enemy is taking up position in front of the Shady Grove Church and Mechanicsville road. The country is very much cut up and affords strong positions for skirmishers. The road seems to be along a ridge.

C. W. HOWELL,
Corps of Engineers.

MAY 30, 1864—6 p. m.

Major DUANE,
Chief Engineer, Army of the Potomac:

General Crawford was driven off of the Mechanicsville road, and took up position on the south side of the road on which General Griffin was advancing. General Griffin's right is within a mile of the road to Walnut Grove Church, and the line of the Fifth Corps extends from General Griffin south of the road on which he is and parallel to it; the left is in front of Anderson's house. The enemy are on the Mechanicsville road and throwing up rifle-pits. Our position is quite good.

C. W. HOWELL,
Corps of Engineers.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—6 a. m.

Corps and other independent commanders will draw to-day three days' rations for the troops from the general supply train, so that the men will have five days' rations on their persons from to-morrow morning. The attention of all commanders is called to the necessity of issuing stringent instructions to prevent the waste of subsistence

stores, as, under existing circumstances, deficiencies, however they may arise, cannot be made good. The supply trains will be to-day in the vicinity of the Hundley house.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864.

As soon as the general lines the troops are to occupy have been determined and reached after a movement, corps commanders will at once locate their headquarters, and communicate the position of the same to these headquarters, so that the commanding general may know where to send dispatches to them, and, when practicable, have the telegraph line promptly run out. At present much time is frequently lost in ascertaining the position of corps commanders at the close of a march.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLONEL SHELTON'S HOUSE, *May* 30, 1864—8 a. m.

Captain TAYLOR:

Enemy opened this forenoon on our working party with artillery, distance about 750 yards. No damage done. Party still throwing up works for artillery. Brisk skirmishing in Barlow's front.

J. E. HOLLAND,
Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

(Copy to Generals Hancock and Barlow.)

TOP OF COLONEL SHELTON'S HOUSE,
May 30, 1864—8.15 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

Enemy have one "light twelve" at present bearing on this point. They are engaged at present in completing works on their right (as visible), but very few show themselves above their works, although their sharpshooters are busy firing on our skirmishers. One gun just opened on this point, firing on our working parties, doing no damage.

HOLLAND,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

(Copy to General Barlow and Captain Taylor.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

The commanding general wishes to know what the artillery firing was this morning a little after 7 o'clock?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copy to General Warren.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

The firing about 7 a. m. was from the enemy opening on my working parties. My guns replied very little. I am waiting to complete my epaulements and the rifle-pits for the infantry supports, when I shall open on their works. This is an advance work, and requires some protection for infantry in case it should be assaulted. The ground is open around, but could be assaulted if the enemy pleased. My rifle-pits will be completed very soon. Barlow is pushing his skirmishers along the Cold Harbor road, and is somewhat engaged. Gibbon will do the same.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

I wish to develop positively the enemy's position along that road. They have a strong line of skirmishers.

MAY 30, 1864—9.25 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I have not yet positively determined the enemy's position in front of Barlow's left and Gibbon. The enemy have been driven from their first heavy skirmish line behind detached rifle-pits, which we now occupy with a brigade of each division. There is now a ravine between the enemy's forces and ours, but I do not think it is the creek. I think the creek is still behind that point.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9.40 a. m.

[General WILLIAMS:]

GENERAL: I send in a prisoner taken from a North Carolina regiment, Hoke's brigade, on the skirmish line of the enemy, on General Barlow's front, to our left of the Cold Harbor road. Their skirmish line is on this side of the swamp. He says their line of battle is on the other side of the swamp, probably a mile from where we first encountered the skirmish line. He says they came there Saturday night and commenced intrenching; he thinks they are pretty strong by this time. He thinks Lee's army is pretty generally up here. I send him back on horseback. The Sixth Corps have connected with our reconnaissance and are marching down. I have recommended General Burnside to cut a road through the swamp behind Warren's pickets, to connect with Warren in case of difficulty, which appears likely.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—11.15 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

The present skirmish firing is from General Barlow, who is feeling his way with some skirmishers across the swamp to a crest, from which the enemy's skirmish line have been firing at his line of battle, with a view of determining whether there is really anything strong behind it or not. It does not look as if it were held very strong, and no bad results can follow even if it is.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following has just been received from the Shelton house:

SHELTON HOUSE.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The Shelton house is riddled by shot of enemy. Our batteries and mortars in front of the house have silenced for the present enemy's guns, our batteries doing splendid work, almost every shot striking where aimed. Slight skirmishing going on now.

J. E. HOLLAND,
Lieutenant, Signal Corps.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—4.20 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

General Barlow's skirmishers took the first crest beyond the creek, but the enemy held a hill still beyond and commanding it; and the brigade commander, after suffering some little loss, thought it well to withdraw the skirmishers. But General Barlow is about to relieve the skirmishers with another line, and will continue his efforts, probably with a better result. I have no doubt that General Barlow will be able to hold across the creek, because the loss on our side and the numbers of the enemy seen did not show a necessity of withdrawal. A wounded rebel, taken on the other side of the creek, reports that Ewell's corps is on our front in force.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—5.05 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Birney reports as follows: That General Wright has made connection with his right at a point half mile in front of Overton's house. He says that his first line is within 500 yards of enemy's

line, and that it is only a skirmish with sharpshooters. The enemy show no great force in their intrenchments, which seem to be refused at the point of connection between this corps and Sixth. General Wright's headquarters are at Overton's, and the telegraph is being run there.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, U. S. Vols., Comdg. Second Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

How far are your headquarters from Haw's Shop, and is there a good position near you for general headquarters?

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—6 p. m.

Brig. Gen. SETH WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have received the dispatch in reference to the Sixth Corps, and have referred it to Major-General Birney for an immediate answer. General Birney, who had just left here before receiving your dispatch, remarked to me that the Sixth Corps had wasted hours in getting in position. It is a self-evident fact that the Second Corps have had a sight [*sic*] for the last twenty-four hours without change, except that the skirmishers on the extreme right have been advanced toward the enemy to develop his position, as the Sixth Corps did not arrive.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—6.50 p. m. (Received 7.10 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Army Corps:

General Warren reports that he is attacked on his left flank. The general commanding directs that to relieve Warren you attack wherever you can find a point suitable for it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864—7 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I find that General Barlow's skirmishers have not fallen back to this side of the stream. The report that his skirmishers had retired was incorrect. They had been ordered to fall back, but did not do so until the order was countermanded.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Your order was received at 7.10 p. m. I have directed each division commander to assault at such point of his line as he may deem best. General Barlow has already replied that he will attack at once. I have also directed my artillery to open. General Ricketts, who is on Birney's right, ought to move at the same time to protect Birney's right. General Birney has just sent word that he will attack on his right, and if General Wright moves, it will assist him materially.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—7.30 p. m. (Received 7.40 p. m.)

General HANCOCK:

Cease operations at dark.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to General Burnside.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864—7.50 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have ordered operations to cease at dark. Some of my columns are attacking. I will report which and report progress as soon as I can get accurate information. The infantry firing so far has not been heavy.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—7.40 p. m. (Received 7.52 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Warren reports that the attack on him has quieted down with the repulse of the enemy's first attack.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—8 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: The enemy just now threw 7 white rockets in quick succession on my right and front, and 3 since. Some musketry is going on.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—8.15 p. m.

General HANCOCK,
Second Army Corps:

There is a gap between your left and my right which General Owen told General Potter he would fill with a brigade, but he had not done it when I left the line a few minutes ago. It is possible he may have done it before this, but it might be well to remind him of the importance of it, both to your command and mine. I would be glad to fill it myself, but I really have not the troops, having had to relieve Griffin's line in order that he might go to the relief of Warren's left. I deem it of the utmost importance that that part of the line should be intrenched before morning. How are you getting on?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9.05 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

I have received your dispatch in regard to the gap between my left and your right, which was caused, as is reported to me, as having occurred from General Owen moving forward to attack in conformity with orders from General Meade. As General Wright will be probably moved to the left to-night to support Warren, and I think it inadvisable to order Owen to fall back, you had better fill the gap for the time being, and I will send more troops to that point should General Wright not move.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—8.30 p. m. (Received 8.40 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Warren has repulsed an attack of the enemy, but reports their moving to his left. It will probably be necessary to move Wright to the left. You had better intrench strongly so as to hold your line with the minimum force and give you as much as possible so as to meet a flank attack.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I send you the reports* of my division commanders as to the operations of this evening. The left of my line, (General Owen), is in advance of General Burnside, owing to General Owen moving

*See Barlow to Walker, 9 p. m.; Gibbon to Hancock, 8.45 p. m.; Birney to Walker, 9 p. m., pp. 332, 333, 334.

forward to the attack, which General Burnside apparently did not do. If General Wright is moved to the left, I think General Burnside had better fill the gap; if not, I will do it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9.20 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

You can move General Wright over to the left without any fear. We can hold the right with the force I have. I shall make arrangements to have a swift and strong line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: My signal officers deserve especial commendation today. Lieut. William Niel [Lieut. William H. R. Neel, Ninety-fifth Pennsylvania Infantry] and Lieutenant Holland remained at the station on top of Colonel Shelton's house during the whole day. The house was struck by 51 artillery shots, and both the officers were struck and bruised by shell. A large family of ladies were in the cellar of the house during the shelling, but I had last night advised them to leave, and did so repeatedly to-day, offering them facilities for so doing, which they refused, trusting in God, as they were members of the church. I have sent my report of operations this evening by an orderly. Presume it has reached you by this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: In the attack to-night Colonel Brooke drove the enemy out of a very strong intrenched skirmish line not parallel to the creek—their left being inclined back. No lights are visible and no sounds indicating their presence.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that this afternoon about sundown I received an order to open fire with the artillery in my

charge in order to cover or threaten an assault. As soon as possible thereafter (about 25 minutes) I opened with sixteen pieces and six Coehorn mortars, posted in front of and to the right and left of the Shelton house. The fire I kept up about half an hour, when I received orders from the major-general commanding to cease firing. No reply was made by the enemy. Owing to the darkness the effect of the firing could not be observed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. TIDBALL,
Colonel, Commanding Artillery.

ARMORY SQUARE HOSPITAL,
Washington, D. C., May 30, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that on the morning of the 12th in your famous charge with the Second Corps, while in command of the Nineteenth Maine, I captured the flag of the Thirty-third Virginia Regiment. I was wounded some three hours afterward. I now have the flag in my possession. I was intending to send it to the Governor of our State; but will dispose of it otherwise if you direct. I have reported the capture of the flag to Captain Banes, assistant adjutant-general of our brigade, but learning that you were making inquiries for the flag of the Thirty-third Virginia, I hope you will pardon me for taking this method of informing you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. WELCH,
Major Nineteenth Maine Volunteers.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

The adjutant-general is respectfully requested to send to Major Welch for the flag he admits he has in his possession. Reiterated orders have been issued from these headquarters directing that all flags taken from the enemy be sent in, that they may be forwarded to the War Department, as required by the regulations; and the disregard of these orders by officers I consider exceedingly reprehensible.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

COLONEL: At 7.20 p. m. to-day I received orders to attack the enemy, for the purpose of relieving General Warren. The attack was ordered to be made upon the most suitable point. I attacked at once with Brooke's brigade at the nearest point, in order to make

the diversion as prompt as possible. At about 8 p. m. received orders to discontinue the attack. At that time Brooke's brigade had advanced over the creek and to the top of a wooded ridge running nearly perpendicular to the Cold Harbor road, at a point 1 mile from the cross-roads. A somewhat heavy fire of the enemy was met with—described to me by Colonel Brooke as being a line of battle. I do not believe it to be more than a very heavy skirmish line. In the darkness we could not see the enemy or any works. By the light of the fire of our artillery it is reported to me that troops of the enemy were seen moving to their right during our attack. No artillery was used by the enemy upon our attacking force. I occupy the crest above named with a strong skirmish line, connecting with General Gibbon on my left and General Birney on my right.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that in the attack of to-night Colonel Brooke drove the enemy out of a very strongly intrenched skirmish line of works. This line is not parallel to the creek, but oblique, their right resting in the swamp near the creek, and their left running inclined back toward the general line of their works. No lights are visible from this work in the direction of the enemy, and no sounds indicating their presence are heard. We can see farther in the morning.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

P. S.—General Gibbon is not sufficiently advanced to connect with the left of our present skirmish line. I ask that he may do so. I send up 1 officer and 1 man, prisoners. They say the line from which they came is not intrenched.

F. C. B.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 30, 1864—8.45 p. m.

[General HANCOCK:]

GENERAL: The result of my attack, which was made at a very late hour this afternoon, was simply to advance the right of my skirmish line, well supported, to the foot of the bluffs on the other side of the stream, the tops of which were occupied by the enemy in rifle-pits; not, however, in very strong force. The left of my picket-line, supported by a brigade, has swung around toward the right and moved up toward the right, for a time disconnecting itself from General Burnside's right, which, I am informed, did not advance. I have directed the connection to be re-established.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION,
May 30, 1864.

Maj. J. M. NORVELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division:

SIR: In answer to a note just received from you, I have the honor to state that the creek in my front is from 2 to 3 feet in depth, and from 12 to 15 feet in width. There appears to be no obstructions on the other side of the creek. I can advance my skirmish line without much difficulty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSHUA T. OWEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—8 p. m.

General BIRNEY:

General Barlow and General Birney will under no circumstances withdraw the brigade in support of the artillery at the Shelton house without orders from these headquarters. A strong skirmish line should be thrown out well to the front and around the flanks all night, and the original line of battle, sufficient to support the advanced brigades, should be kept up in connection with any subsequent operations.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The safety of the guns as far as the right of the road is concerned is intrusted to General Birney and on the left of the road to General Barlow.

F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Immediately upon receipt of order to attack, I sent a staff officer to General Mott, ordering his brigade on my right to attack without delay. I advanced the artillery with my division to suitable positions, and ordered my Second Brigade to be in readiness to support Mott's. I received the order after 7 o'clock, and before General Mott commenced the attack I received an order from Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan to suspend operations. I have called upon General Mott for an explanation of the delay on part of his brigade, which should have been in readiness, as it was within a few hundred yards of enemy's works and in line of battle, to have obeyed the order instantly. I will forward his explanation.

I am, your obedient servant,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

My picket-line is being pushed out in front of new line.

HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 3D DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

Maj. F. BIRNEY,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, Second Corps:

MAJOR: In accordance with instructions from headquarters Third Division, I have the honor to report that at 7.25 this p. m. I received orders to attack the enemy without delay. I immediately ordered my pickets to advance, which was promptly done, and prepared the brigade for an attack. Three regiments of my right advanced some 200 yards, the other about 100 yards, when the order to attack was countermanded. When the order to attack was received the brigade was lying in the woods screened from the enemy, with the intention of taking a position or advance at dusk. The position is now taken and the rifle-pits being built. It was impracticable to do it before, as the command would have been exposed to the fire from the enemy's works. My pickets are now advanced and the connection on the right and left are perfected.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864—4.50 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

I am directed to take position on your left. Will you please let me know when you are in position?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 30, 1864.

General WARREN:

Your dispatch received. I have just returned from the front and find that General Hancock is posting his command on or near the Hanover Court-House and Cold Harbor road, with two divisions east of the old Richmond road and one west. I mean the road that leads from Harris' [Haw's] Shop to Atlee's. I am to take position on his left, but I do not know yet where my left will be. My troops have started, and the position is being laid out by Major Morton.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—5 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

It is my wish that your troops might take up the position occupied by General Griffin, and allow of his being moved farther to the left. So far only one brigade has been thus relieved by General Crittenden. General Griffin may have covered more ground than General Crittenden thinks he can take, but as no enemy was found within a mile

of that front at dark, it is believed to be not particularly threatened. There is skirmishing to the left of General Griffin this morning, and it has been going on all night. It is held by the Pennsylvania Reserves, who have to be relieved to-day on account of the expiration of their term of service. In order that I may keep up connection with you without having my line broken, I renew my request to relieve General Griffin, or at least one more of his brigades.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—6.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I was compelled to put a brigade at Linney's corner across the Totopotomoy last evening to guard Griffin's rear. Could not Sheridan picket the road from Linney's to the headwaters of the Matadequin beyond Gibson's and Gilman's place? He is now picketing the road to Old Church and beyond.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 30, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Last evening I understood the cavalry were to cover my left flank, but just as General Griffin had reached his farthest advance, General Gregg sent me word that his pickets on my left were withdrawn. I supposed he meant those this side of the Totopotomoy Creek. As infantry were reported moving in that direction I sent a brigade down to the bridge, and pushed skirmishers out to Linney's. The bridge was torn up by our cavalry, and the nearest pickets of cavalry were about at Mrs. Pate's. My left flank of skirmishers at the time was about at Gibson's and Shelton's.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

General Sheridan's instructions cover your request.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 30, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

A deserter, a boy of fifteen, from the Thirty-first Virginia, Pegram's brigade, of Ewell's corps, has come in. He says his brigade moved out to support their cavalry yesterday, and he fell out. He is a mere boy, and says he has been in the guard-house nearly all the time.

Ewell's corps yesterday, he says, were in line of battle about 3 or 4 miles southwest from here. He does not know if they are there this morning, but as he came along he saw their pickets about one-fourth of a mile from ours. I make out from his statement that Ewell is on the right of their army, and that Griffin struck cavalry, which they sent infantry to support. General Griffin reports that the enemy are not there now. I have directed him to reconnoiter with a brigade until he finds them.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—The deserter says he was told that General Lee was sick, and that General Ewell was in command.

G. K. W.

P. S.—I am keeping my troops in hand and waiting developments before taking up any position. I think the lines of Generals Hancock and Burnside will swing around so as to face southwest and throw me all south of the Totopotomoy, and if I move on to the north of it we will get mixed up. General Burnside will inform me when his left is in position. In the mean time I am reconnoitering in my front and left.

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch by Captain Jay received. Whatever information General Burnside develops and sends here will be sent to you as soon as received, and your connection with him will be expected.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—8.45 a. m.

General WARREN:

The commanding general wishes to know what the artillery firing was this morning a little after 7 o'clock.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

I don't know. I believe it was in front of Hancock.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Having learned the left of the Second Corps reaches to the Totopotomoy, I have ordered all of my corps south of that stream to make room for General Burnside. I should move south till I struck

the road from Linney's running southwesterly, instead of the one General Griffin's advance is on. It is easy to come over from one to the other.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

My headquarters will be at this, Via's, about 2 miles south of Norman's.

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—10.15 a. m.

General WARREN:

I understand from your dispatch of 9 a. m. that you would move out the road running southwest from Linney's so as to leave room for Burnside, and without waiting for instructions to that effect from these headquarters. The commanding general approved the course you mentioned. Let me know if I am right in my understanding of the matter.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

I send you copy of a dispatch* just received from General Hancock. The commanding general directs that you do not get far off to the left before connecting with General Burnside, so that you may be supported by him should you require it. I send you also copy of a dispatch† from General Burnside. The commanding general directs that you aid General Burnside in opening a road between him and yourself, so as to connect.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch just received. I have already sent word to General Griffin to make a good connection on his right before advancing farther. I think he must be already well on the flank of the force in front of General Hancock. My whole corps is in supporting distance. If the enemy is strongly intrenched anywhere on my front I will report it at once. I send you a sketch of position.‡ I would like you to send it back by your next messenger.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—The enemy's cavalry annoy me on the road from Linney's southwest.

G. K. WARREN.

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* See Hancock to Humphreys, 9.40 a. m., p. 326.

† See Burnside to Humphreys, 10.10 a. m., p. 356.

‡ Not found with this paper; but see sketch accompanying Warren's dispatch of 9.30 p. m., June 4, p. 579.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—11.12 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch of 10.15 just received. When I wrote you at 9 a. m. Major Morton was at my crossing of the Totopotomoy, going to the south of it, and I was told General Hancock's left extended to the stream. This must have been all changed, as he did not come over. I did not extend south on the other road. I have officers out now looking for the left of Burnside or Hancock. The picket-firing is well on my right. I have ceased to advance, and am pushing to the right again to feel and learn the country.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—12 m.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Griffin's skirmishers connect with General Burnside's, and I have given directions to press back the enemy's skirmishers. We have taken 3 prisoners from Rodes' division, Ewell's corps, who say that his whole corps is intrenched about half or three-quarters of a mile on Griffin's front, which bring them nearly at Shady Grove. I have seen Colonel Forsyth, of General Sheridan's staff, and informed him of the position of my left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have no recent reports from my front. There have been a few cannon-shots recently. I think they were mine. One of the prisoners says it is Ewell that is sick, and in Richmond. He had heard it was Lee, but did not think that was so. At any rate Early is in command of the corps. The prisoners are North Carolinians, and I have sent them up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

GENERAL WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 30, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS, *Chief of Staff:*

General Warren's skirmishers are still advancing. He is in advance of the troops on his right. He has taken some more prisoners of Ewell's corps. They report earth-works about three-fourths of a mile from Griffin's line.

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 30, 1864—2.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

There seems to be some mistake about the cavalry covering my left. General Crawford just sends me word that he has sent a bri-

gade over to that road to clear the enemy's cavalry away. If General Burnside comes south of the Totopotomoy, I should have abundant force to take possession of that road myself. General Sheridan's cavalry is I believe lying in the vicinity of New Castle Ferry.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have learned from my officers that the left of the Second Corps does reach the Totopotomoy, and that a division of the Ninth Corps is about to cross to the south side in that vicinity. We have taken 6 more prisoners from Rodes' division. The cavalry now connect down the road from Linney's to Mechanicsville. The artillery firing here is mine. No line of battle has yet been encountered; I am going out to the front. Have you any instructions? My advance has passed General Burnside's skirmishers on my right.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I transmitted your dispatch of 2.30 p. m. to General Meade, at Hancock's headquarters. If he has any reply to make to you I shall receive it in ten minutes. I suppose there can be none since your intended position and the modifications that changes in Burnside's may produce are understood from your previous dispatches.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HANCOCK'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 30, 1864—2.40 [p. m.].

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch of 2.30 received. No other instructions than those given you last night can be given till you disclose the position of the enemy. Burnside reports he has one division in position between you and Griffin. I understand, however, only a brigade of that division was required for this purpose. I send you a copy* of instructions sent to Burnside, for your information. If, on examination, you think it expedient to attack the enemy you can do so. Hancock's front is strongly held by them, and it would not seem probable that much can be done here. Such of Burnside's force not in the line or wanted to fill any gap you may make can be used to aid you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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*See Meade to Burnside, 2.30 p. m., p. 356.

MAY 30, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

General Griffin reports to me that he has struck the enemy's line with rifled cannon in position. We have taken about 30 prisoners, Rodes' division, North Carolinians. The orders last night contemplated the cavalry covering my left. They have not done it. I have had to send a large infantry force off of my line of march to drive away the enemy's cavalry and support it. My right is in advance of General Burnside's troops there. I think his whole force should cross over and let me move to the left if I am to go farther, as I now have to advance on two diverging roads. I do not know how to communicate with him, except by sending to General Potter.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—4 p. m. (Received 4.15 p. m.)

General MEADE:

The enemy have got in force around my left flank. Any troops that can be sent to the Via house are desirable.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I have already communicated to General Sheridan the fact that the enemy's cavalry in the Linney, Gilman, &c., road have been annoying you all day, and that you had been obliged to send a brigade to drive them off while you moved elsewhere. Your dispatch of 4 p. m. just received. General Burnside reports that he has crossed his corps on the south side of the Totopotomoy, and has a large reserve. The telegraph does not communicate with him. I will send at once to find him, and direct him to send more force at once to the Via house. You had better communicate with Potter.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—4.25 p. m.

General MEADE:

We have formed a division to meet the advance of the enemy toward my left. Got artillery in position and order restored. If General Burnside moves across the stream I will take care of my own left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Burnside has been directed to furnish Warren assistance. He has two divisions in reserve.

[G. G. M.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that you are too far to the left of General Burnside, who will have too great a space to occupy and have a strong reserve force. Send a staff officer to him to indicate where your right is, and one to show where you wish the supporting force brought to. General Burnside is ordered by the major-general commanding to send what troops of his not in line to support you at once, and to attack the enemy. Two of his divisions are south of the Totopotomoy; one north of it. He will be able to send you a division for support.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 30, 1864—5.20 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have already made just such arrangements, or nearly so, as your dispatch of 4.45 directs. I have sent Major Roebling to get the nearest division of General Burnside to take Griffin's place and let him move toward my center. If this can be done before dark we will attack. From the reports I receive I should think the enemy designed attacking me.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch received. Two brigades of Burnside were sent to you at 5.20. He is ordered to send you all his surplus force. From the position of the army Burnside is probably the only source from which you can be readily re-enforced. If you think the enemy is in sufficient force to attack you, the commanding general thinks it would be better to receive his attack rather than attack him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 30, 1864—6 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy brought up a battery to the neighborhood of Bethesda Church and opened. I doubt if any of General Burnside's troops will be here in time to do anything this evening. I think I can hold my own, if not attacked in very great force.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—6.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general directs me to inform you that General Burnside reports that he has connected with you twice to-day, and each time you have moved off your right without notice to him. The commanding general desires you to keep the commander of the corps with which your flank connects advised of your intention to change position so that the connections may be continued. The two brigades from General Burnside are reported by the staff officer to have left him at 4.50 and not 5.20 to join you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

General WARREN:

I am ordered to send you re-enforcements. Where shall I send them? If Griffin would fall back and connect with our left, would you not be all right?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 30, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General BURNSIDE:

I wish you would send a force to take General Griffin's place, and let him move to my left, or send re-enforcements to my line about the point where the enemy's battery now is firing. I am not pressed now, but support to be of any use must come soon. I have sent an officer to your left to find you or any division commander there, with an order from General Meade for re-enforcements from you, with which he wishes us to attack the enemy.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I am in the midst of an attack by the enemy and holding my own; it comes from the road on my left.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Hancock and Burnside ordered to attack. Wright previously ordered to push close and [if practicable] to attack.

G. G. M.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—6.50 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have not been in communication with General Burnside to-day till lately, as I was moving forward under common orders to him and me. With a connection once established, I think if we moved forward the line connecting should have done so without further notice. I did not intend to stop at all, except the enemy made me.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general desires to know the result of the attack upon you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

It has all quieted down with the repulse of the enemy. I have ordered a strong line of skirmishers to push out.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 30, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

We are picking up a good many prisoners, and the rebel dead are reported numerous.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—Reports say the enemy moved off to our left.

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch respecting the connection with General Burnside, and to say that your orders required connection to be made with General Burnside before moving forward, and to be maintained during that movement, and that as a general principle the connecting flank should never be moved without due and continued notice to the adjoining corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—8.15 p. m.

General WARREN:

What is the present disposition of your troops; have you any connection with Burnside? Do you want additional forces to hold your present position? Answer at once.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I have just returned from the lines, and find that General Crittenden had already relieved a principal portion of Griffin's division, and is now in condition to relieve the whole of it. I had the re-enforcements started, but Major Roebling told me that you preferred that Griffin should be relieved. I am sorry I was not able to aid you sooner, and hope you were successful in repulsing the enemy.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

I had re-enforcements ready to send you, just as Major Roebling arrived, who stated that you desired me to relieve Griffin instead of sending re-enforcements. I gave the order at once, and it is now being carried out as rapidly as possible. If you desire it, I will send re-enforcements instead of a division.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

In answer to your communication if I want re-enforcements to hold my own, I think not, provided I can have some force to watch the country east of me, so that I shall not have to hold a large contingent for the enemy's unexpected movements. My left rests on the mill pond at the head of the Matadequin Creek. General Sheridan reports his troops at the mill there. Thence I extend toward Shady Grove about 2 miles; then Griffin's division, facing southwest and connecting with General Burnside. I would like to have General Burnside relieve Griffin; then I think I can swing over on the road to Mechanicsville. We punished the enemy badly to-night. Griffin's division drove back Rodes all day, while a force was accumulated on his flank and rear. This General Crawford fought and beat handsomely. Some other troops took part and the artillery did

excellent service. I believe a strong force moving direct on to Mechanicsville and Cold Harbor would probably get into a fight on fair ground without intrenchments.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 30, 1864—9.15 p. m.

General BURNSIDE:

I am much obliged for your kind wishes and efforts. We repulsed the enemy with severe loss to him. The reason I wished General Crittenden to relieve Griffin was because his troops knew the ground where the attack was threatened, and his reserves were available as soon as your command arrived. Besides this arrangement kept our troops from getting mixed up together.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General MEADE:

General Griffin just sends me word that General Ayres has pushed out, since we repulsed the enemy, 1½ miles without finding an enemy. Captain Paine's sketch of the position when he left will show you by this additional mile and a half how far he has gone.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch reporting the position of your troops received. General Burnside reports his whole corps south of the Totopotomoy, and that he has relieved General Griffin. As your dispatch is read this will make your position secure, acting on the defensive. Sheridan reports Torbert's division of cavalry at Cold Harbor, Parsley's, and the cross-roads west of Parsley's and north of Cold Harbor, and that he pickets and patrols to your left, so that no movement of the enemy on your left can be made unnoticed. It is not intended to take the offensive to-morrow unless the enemy should attempt to interpose between you and General W. F. Smith, now at White House, and moving to-morrow to New Castle. Should the cavalry report any such movement, General Wright will be moved across to the left, and, in conjunction with you, the enemy attacked. You will, therefore, strengthen your position. Keep your communication with Burnside.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch dated 10.30 p. m. is received.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general desires to be informed whether you intend to order home to-morrow or the next day the officers and men of the Pennsylvania Reserves, who are to be discharged. The men to be discharged must go in a body and take their arms with them and escort a train of empty wagons to the White House, and the commanding general directs that you order the senior officer of the Reserves going home to report to Brigadier-General Ingalls, chief quartermaster, for special instructions.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your dispatch relating to the Pennsylvania Reserves received. I intend to send them home to-morrow; the orders in your dispatch will be attended to.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

The major-general commanding directs me to inquire if the enemy still remain in your front, and if things are as they were yesterday. General Sheridan is at Old Church, and is watching all the roads leading south on your left flank.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864—6 a. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: There is no enemy in my front.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—7 a. m.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division, Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you push a brigade down the road in your front till you find the enemy, and report the result.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—7 a. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: My skirmishers have advanced 1½ miles. A citizen reports that there was a considerable infantry force in my front last night, which is corroborated by negroes, and that it fell back a little after dark, stating (the men) that the rebel army was about 2½ miles distant between Pole Green Church and Shady Grove. We are in hearing of the enemy's drums.

Very respectfully, &c.,
CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General.

I think this the most reliable information I have received.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—11 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

General Warren desires that your pickets on the right form a connection with the pickets of the Second Corps before you advance much farther. The left of the Second Corps is on the other side of the Totopotomoy.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864—2.15 p. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have struck the enemy in line and his artillery (rifled guns), and am in advance of the troops on my right, with a sharp fire on my left. I have halted until I receive further orders, or till the connection is made on my left, and the right moves up. The Second Brigade is in front, with the Twenty-second Massachusetts as skirmishers, and has done splendidly.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864—4 p. m.

General G. K. WARREN:

GENERAL: General Cutler has gone back, and if you can make the troops attack with the assistance of the artillery, it will be an easy thing to regain everything, as I have not moved the head of my column, but changed line with two brigades.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

Capt. A. S. MARVIN, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: Colonel Strang, the officer having charge of my skirmishers, reports that the enemy have left our front. Said by a citizen living about 300 yards in front of skirmish line to have left about 10 o'clock last night. Shall I push forward my skirmish line?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. H. LOCKWOOD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

General LOCKWOOD:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your command in the direction of General Crawford.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

General LOCKWOOD:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your command out right in front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA RESERVE CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division, Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general directs me to say that, as he is covering a portion of your troops, he will maintain the connection until the firing ceases, when he will withdraw them. Hardin is pushing for the Mechanicsville road. We have the Mechanicsville road and are advancing up it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. A. McCOY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA RESERVES,
May 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division, Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the general to say that an entire brigade, under Colonel Hardin, is going out that direction, with orders to cross the road and advance in the direction of Mechanicsville. He desires that you direct that the left of your skirmish line maintain the connection with the right of his as he advances.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBT. A. McCOY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864—5 a. m.

General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

Very respectfully, &c.,
A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864—2 p. m.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have advanced a brigade under Hardin on my left, with instructions to drive the enemy's cavalry from the Mechanicsville road. The connection with Griffin is complete. I hope to cover the Mechanicsville road, and if I succeed, General Cutler must sustain my left. I have communicated with him, and asked him to send a brigade to support the picket-line on his flank and to connect closely with me. He seems to be indisposed to do this unless he receives orders from you. Hardin is advancing, but we are not yet on the road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 30, 1864—2.10 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

You had better support your brigade if necessary, yourself, and let General Cutler move up toward General Griffin. I think the cavalry will all run toward Mechanicsville.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have the Mechanicsville road, and my line of battle is crossing and advancing toward Mechanicsville. I have yours of

2.10 p. m. and will support Hardin by my division. I am throwing my left very much around. My intention is to advance steadily down the Mechanicsville road and connect with Griffin, protecting my own left. The batteries following Griffin have just moved in, but I await Hardin's movement. I hope you will throw out our left well.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: My line is now established. I have an officer in a tree from which he can see the enemy's movement. He reports that the enemy are forming at the Mechanicsville pike in two lines, and that they are marching to the right and left, principally to the left. The enemy are now advancing their skirmish line on my right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—11 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

General Warren desires you to look out well for General Griffin's left, while he is advancing. General Griffin is now trying to form connection with the Second Corps on his right.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 30, 1864—3 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

Be careful not to run your left flank against any strong force. The cavalry do not co-operate with us in any reliable way, as far as I can learn. If you find any of ours, post them on your flank.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: The enemy advanced his line at 6.30 p. m. My line opened when the enemy were within 100 yards. They were repulsed along the whole line. My line advanced, and we have between 50 and 60 prisoners, 6 officers. There are over 300 dead rebels in our front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: My picket-line has advanced nearly to the woods, and until it drew the enemy's fire. We are bringing in the wounded rebels with our own. I have Colonel Christian, of the Forty-ninth Virginia, wounded in three places. He reports that Colonel Terrill was killed before he (Colonel Christian) was wounded. Two other colonels lie dead, and probably Brigadier-General Ramsey [Ramseur?], as an officer answering to the description given by Colonel Christian now lies upon the field in advance of our pickets. I have sent out, however, to bring in the body in order to substantiate the report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

General L. CUTLER,
Commanding Fourth Division, Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw your pickets at once and have your command under arms and ready to move.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864—5 a. m.

General CUTLER, *Comdg. Fourth Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have your command in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 30, 1864—9 a. m.

General CUTLER:

Move your division at once to the southward and cross before or after General Crawford, as your division or his reaches the bridge first.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

General WARREN:

SIR: I have placed my Third Brigade on Griffin's left. It does not quite close the interval, but I think it safe, as there is a fish pond and ravine between them, which cannot be well passed by any one.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General CUTLER:

Do not press your men forward after finding the enemy's skirmishers unless the connection on your right and left is made. I do not care to crowd them much to-day, but hold on to all we get. I shall send an officer to reconnoiter the picket-line by and by.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

After joining my advanced force on what is called the main road to Richmond, I halted and sent out on that road and found it crossed the railroad at Peake's Turnout, about a mile from where I intersected it, the road running nearly west. About one-half a mile short of the railroad is another road running to Mechanicsville, which I have had followed about 3 miles, where the party ran into the skirmishers of Hill's corps, who is represented to be intrenched about half a mile farther back and crossing the road last referred to. I have not yet been able to get hold of the right of the Second Corps, and believe I am in advance of it, but hope to know shortly. I am issuing rations as fast as they can be got up to the troops, who are generally quite out. There ought to be some cavalry force to watch the river road from Mr. Hundley's to Hanover Court-House to cover our right and rear, the few cavalry on these roads having been taken by me to aid in the reconnaissances I have been making.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The major-general commanding has misunderstood my dispatch if he supposes I halted a single moment to issue rations. I halted to find my whereabouts, and used all possible diligence in so doing. Rations were all issued before I was ready to start. My column is now on the road moving with all practicable dispatch to connect with Hancock's right. I am mortified to learn from your note* that the major-general commanding should suppose that anything short of impossibility should delay me in taking position.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
Overton's House, May 30, 1864—4.20 p. m.
(Received 5 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have been here for some time with one division in line waiting for the establishment of the Second Corps' right, and another ready

* Not found.

to come in. The third I shall place in reserve on my right. My headquarters will be at the Overton house, on the Richmond road, not far from the headquarters of General Birney.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Major-General HANCOCK:

This dispatch is referred to General Hancock for explanation. At 2 p. m. I understood him that Birney's right was fixed, and that although then refused, yet the skirmishers were in position, and that General Wright could immediately go into position. I do not understand, therefore, why he should have to wait some time.*

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

If you are in position I desire you will push forward your skirmishers, supporting them and pressing back the enemy's skirmishers till his position is developed, and, if practicable, attack the enemy in case he appears weak. Warren, on the left, is threatened, and the enemy appear there in force.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Notwithstanding constant exertion for several hours, I have but one division in position connecting with Hancock's right, and a second going in. The remaining division is massed on the road protecting the right flank. The country through which the troops moved from road is a swamp and tangle of the very worst character, and no possible effort could have got the troops sooner in position. The skirmish line report intrenchments in front of and a little to the right of the division in position. I have ordered the skirmish line well pressed forward, but it is too late to follow it up by an attack to-night. I have just returned from the line.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

MAY 30, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

GENERAL: You will attack the enemy in your front if you have pushed up men enough to develop his position.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Hancock to Williams, 6 p. m., p. 328.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 30, 1864—7.05 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Yours of 7 p. m. received. The enemy's position in my front is not developed, and any attack ordered cannot be made till after dark. Do you wish a night attack made? From my own examination of our front I think it would fail.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The enemy shelled my rear guard this afternoon, on the Richmond and Hanover Court-House road, at the point where my column left it. A force of their cavalry, about 1,000, was reported near Hanover Court-House, moving toward the Pamunkey, on the river road.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Yours of 5.30 p. m., which came while I was establishing my line, is just received. I regret I did not sooner see it, in order that I might relieve Warren by attacking. Shall I attack anyhow?—though I believe Hill's corps to be in my front, and I can move with only two divisions at most, and that with difficulty.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

I do not wish a night attack. Mass all the force not in line in rear of your line, and hold your command ready to move.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Under the order of 7.30 p. m. to hold the corps in readiness to move, all animals are kept harnessed and saddled. Is it desired that this be continued?

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—6.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Your dispatch received, and your instructions will be observed. Our column is in motion, and will get in position soon as possible, after which I will inform you of the position of my headquarters; in the mean time I will be near headquarters of General Hancock, some 3 miles in advance of his headquarters last night. I shall not bring my camp to line until it is established, and any messages sent for me up to that time will be forwarded to the front to me by orderly. Please say to the general commanding that I fear I will be somewhat delayed by General Gibbon's ambulance and artillery trains, but will not be long, and is unavoidable, unless we can find a road across, which we are trying to do.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 30, 1864—10.10 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have just come to General Hancock's headquarters to learn correctly the position of General Gibbon, on whose left we are to join. My column is advancing but slowly, in consequence of the necessity for cutting the roads through the woods, but I hope to join with Gibbon very soon, if we have not already done so. I will inform you very soon where our headquarters are to be.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Major Lydig has just returned with your dispatch, and states that the general commanding thinks we have made a great mistake this morning when we went out to establish the line. General Warren's right rested on a certain ravine. We put our left there, and General Warren's right left it. As soon as I learned this I sent in another division, and before that was in position Warren's right had swung off at least a mile and was represented as being hard pressed, and I also learn now that his right division is moving off by the left flank, thus making a gap and leaving our left entirely exposed. If General Warren would fall back to our line and connect with our left we could, I think, hold the line, and I can send him 3,000 or 4,000 men. I will have them ready to move in five minutes, and have asked him where to send them, but if he moves off to the left we will be exposed.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *May* 30, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I am informed you have posted Potter's division between Warren and Hancock, and have two divisions in reserve. You will commu-

nicate with Warren, who is advancing to feel the enemy's position, and you will advance Potter to keep up the connection now existing, and in case Warren's movements should make a gap you will promptly fill it with your command.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—If Warren requires any assistance give it to him from your surplus force.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Warren just telegraphs, "The enemy have got in force around my left flank. Any troops that can be sent to the Via house are desirable." Please send at once support to General Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Warren reports the enemy have got a force around his left flank. The commanding general directs that you send all your force not in line to support General Warren and to attack the enemy that are attempting to turn him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

If you cannot find General Warren on the ground you can telegraph him through these headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864. (Received 5 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Our connection with Hancock and Warren has been established for some time, but it is rather crooked, and we have been trying to correct it before reporting. We have had some sharp

skirmishing, but are all the time gaining, and hope to have the line all right very soon. The position we occupy is entirely on the south side of the creek. We are now seeking positions for artillery. The line is so short that we will have a good reserve.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

My headquarters are on the road leading from Harris' Store [Haw's Shop] to the Jones house. It is the same road taken by Colonel Humphrey yesterday.

A. E. B.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864. (Received 6.10 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Major Roebling has just arrived, and says General Warren wants us to relieve Griffin, and I have ordered it done. He says the connection was perfect this morning.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general requests me to say that the mistake he referred to was taking Warren's skirmish line for his line of battle. General Warren was directed to act in concert in advancing, and should have given you notice each time of his intention to move his connecting flank. His attention is called to this point.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—6.50 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

General Warren reports at 6.30 p. m. that he is attacked. Hurry up the re-enforcements you are sending him, and attack the enemy wherever you can to relieve Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Warren reports that the attack on him has quieted down with the repulse of the enemy's first attack.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864—8.15 p. m. (Received 8.25 p. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE:

What is the present position of your troops? Report at once.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864. (Received 8.40 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I am going out on the line and shall move the headquarters and telegraph office farther to the front, so that communication will be cut off for a few minutes.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—8.20 p. m. (Received 9.10 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have just returned from the line in our front, which I have ordered advanced as far as I deemed it practicable and prudent. General Crittenden has taken up the principal portion of Griffin's position, and he has his men in readiness to take up the remainder of his line as soon as his men withdraw.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864. (Received 8.40 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Dispatch received. General Warren sent Major Roebling to me, who stated that he desired me to relieve Griffin's division instead of sending re-enforcements. I reversed the column of re-enforcements and ordered them to take the place of Griffin. I will push out all I can.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—8.45 p. m. (Received 10 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The entire Ninth Corps is across the creek occupying a position from Whitlock's house to the left of the present position of General

Warren, one of my divisions having relieved the division of General Griffin, of the Fifth Army Corps. We have a strong position but a long line; it is already intrenched and will be rendered formidable during the night. It runs in advance of the Tate house and the Timberlake house quite a half a mile. There was a slight gap between our right and Hancock's left, which I think is filled before this, as I telegraphed General Hancock in reference to it.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

[General GRANT:]

I send this dispatch received since leaving you. It appears the whole of Burnside's corps is across the Totopotomoy, and that he has relieved General Griffin as Warren desired. If Wright is now moved it will leave only Hancock on this side of the creek. Do you think this alters the condition, or had Wright still better be moved.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Haw's Shop, May 30, 1864.

In accordance with instructions from headquarters Army of the Potomac, you will hold your command in readiness to move at a moment's notice after 5.30 a. m. Please send a staff officer to these headquarters for instructions at 5 o'clock. The object in moving is to connect with General Hancock's line, who is some 2 or 3 miles in advance. The forage and supply trains of the corps have been ordered to this (south) side of the river, and should they not arrive authority has been given us to borrow forage and subsistence from the trains of the other corps.

Very truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps, &c.:

GENERAL: General Hancock's left (Owen) has advanced somewhat obliquely so that he is in advance of my right. I have ordered Curtin to connect with him so as to make the line secure. I think that if my line and General Willcox's are both advanced in the morning our front will be considerably shortened and strengthened.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Division:

SIR: I am directed by the commanding general to inform you that the Ninth Corps was some days ago assigned to the Army of the Potomac. It was supposed that you would be notified at the time by Major-General Burnside.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Old Church, Va., May 30, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have ordered one brigade of General Wilson's division to take position and hold the line of Crump's Swamp. As soon as the other brigade can be spared from the rear it will be ordered to the same point and the bridges and railroads will be destroyed. Would it not be best to have two divisions on our right flank?

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

TELEGRAPH OPERATOR:

Transmit to General Meade at General Hancock's and return to me.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Old Church, Va., May 30, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The enemy's cavalry collected in my front on the Cold Harbor road not far from Old Church. I directed General Torbert, with his division, to attack them about 1 o'clock to-day. Had a sharp engagement of nearly two hours. We defeated them and drove them down to Cold Harbor. It was a very handsome affair, and very creditable to General Torbert and his division. The enemy had a very strong position. They were driven from it, leaving a number of killed and wounded, 60 or 70 prisoners captured. I have had troops on the left of General Warren's corps all day, and connected with him. I have now ordered a strong force down Mechanicsville road to go down as far as General Warren and connect with his command.

I inclose extracts from Richmond papers of this date. My headquarters will be at Sayers' house to-night.

Very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

Extracts from Richmond (Rebel) papers.

MAY 30, 1864.

About 12 o'clock yesterday a severe cavalry fight occurred near Haw's Shop between detachments of several brigades of Fitzhugh Lee's and Hampton's divisions and a corps of Yankee cavalry, supported by a large body of infantry, estimated at two corps. The enemy were guarding the road leading from that point to the peninsula. Their cavalry were dismounted during the fight and commenced firing on us at a distance. Both parties advanced, and the enemy repeatedly charged our line, and were handsomely repulsed in every effort. Their center was driven in, or fell back, and being in imminent danger of being surrounded on both flanks by the largely superior and combined forces of both cavalry and infantry we were compelled to retire a short distance to avoid it, the enemy's artillery playing on our ranks continuously. The musketry was very heavy and as incessant for a time as the volleys between infantry in regular lines of battle. The loss on both sides was heavy and a few prisoners taken, but it is impossible now to give even an approximate estimate of our own or that of the enemy. Among the casualties were Colonel Millen, of Georgia, killed, and Colonel Dunovant, of South Carolina, wounded by a pistol-shot through the left hand. Most of our loss is attributed to the fact that nearly all the force engaged on our part were new men, whose only idea was to go in and fight, which they did most gallantly and creditably. The fight continued at intervals until nearly 5 p. m. without decisive result save the ascertaining of the enemy's position and strength on that part of his lines. The youthful and dashing General Young, of Georgia, has been temporarily assigned to the command of the brigade of North Carolina cavalry of General Gordon, wounded in the late fight below Richmond.

FIGHT NEAR HANOVERTOWN.

The city was yesterday, as usual, filled to repletion with all sorts of rumors respecting a battle said to have taken place Saturday evening in Hanover, between a brigade of our cavalry, under General Williams C. Wickham, and the like arm of the service under some Yankee general whose name did not transpire. Our men were said to have been badly worsted in the encounter. From the best information to be obtained from persons from the front arriving here last night, we are enabled to give the following version of the affair, which was all that was then known: About 1 o'clock on Saturday, Wickham's brigade, Fitz. Lee's division, encountered a large force of the enemy's cavalry near Haw's Shop, about 2 miles this side of Hanover, down on the Pamunkey River. The battle which ensued was contested with much obstinacy by the enemy, who fought with great, though unavailing, desperation against the determined efforts of Wickham's veterans. It appeared that the cavalry attacked by Wickham's force was the rear guard of Grant's army, and the fact was soon apparent by the return to the south bank of the river of a numerous body of Yankee infantry, who united their efforts against Wickham. The combat still raged with unabated fury, but the

effect of the enemy's re-enforcements was soon apparent. Our men being outnumbered had to withdraw. An advantage gained by us on the right was counterbalanced by one of theirs on our left. A few prisoners were taken by us. One hundred and fifty, probably, of our brave lads fell into the hands of the enemy. All our wounded were necessarily left on the field, but the enemy soon retiring, they were recovered. Yesterday to the number of 90 were brought into this city in charge of the ambulance committee, from near Atlee's Station. In this battle we probably lost 70 killed.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Old Church, May 30, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that as soon as you can issue forage to your command, you will move out your division via Old Church down the road to Cold Harbor until you come to the point where the road to Prospect Church intersects this road, then go into camp. Open communication with General Torbert, who will move and take position at Bethesda Church. You will cover all the roads to your left and rear. The points on the map sent you this morning marked Store and Tomlin's must be covered, also pickets to Parsley's and Anderson's, on the left-hand road from the point that you encamp at.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Crump's Swamp, May 30, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Agreeably to instructions, I am, with one brigade of my division, between Mrs. Hundley's and the crossing at Crump's Swamp, picketing and holding the line of the creek between the right of the army and the Pamunkey. Colonel Chapman sent out the Third Indiana this afternoon to within a half mile of Hanover Court-House, and communicated with a column of our infantry moving toward Mechanicsville. After it had passed on, he was attacked by a small force of rebel cavalry, which had apparently been hanging on the flank and rear of the infantry. Had slight skirmishing with them till dark. We had a strong guard in the works thrown up on the Hanover side of Crump's Swamp, and patrol the road well out. My First Brigade will cross very early in the morning, in compliance with my instructions from corps headquarters. Orders will find me on the road near the swamp till 8 a. m. to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

PORT ROYAL, VA., *May* 30, 1864—8.15 p. m.
(Received 9.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Over 700 men—infantry, cavalry, and artillery—started this p. m. for White House. I fully expected to get 4,000 men off to the army to-day; but, owing to some of the steamers getting aground and breaking paddles, and the delay in towing them up, I was unable to start them. In all 7,500 men, new arrivals, detachments, convalescents, &c., go to the army; also nearly 2,500 stragglers that I have collected. I will telegraph again before I leave, which, I expect, will be to-morrow.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Royal, Va., May 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In consequence of the constant arrival of troops, subsistence stores, forage, &c., the pontoon train has been delayed. I had to depend on it solely for the debarkation of troops, unloading of stores, horses, &c., and loading of the wounded. Rafts had to be built to ferry the troops across the river to this place. Teams and drivers had to be taken from the Reserve Artillery to haul the boats and bridging. Then these teams had to be ferried across on rafts made of the pontoon boats. You will readily see that the delay has been unavoidable.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Port Royal, Va., May 30, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: I have 6,140 men here, two-thirds of whom leave to-day for the army. This includes some 800 cavalry and a battery of artillery. The remainder go to you to-morrow, all according to your telegraphic order, by way of Hanovertown. To-morrow (May 31) everything will have been removed. I shall then leave for the White House. All unable to march will go by transport. Your brother is here, and will accompany me to the White House. I have collected from 1,500 to 2,000 stragglers, and between 500 and 600 contrabands. The stragglers go to their commands under guard, and the contrabands have gone to Washington.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Haw's Shop, May 31, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Meade, who will send back a pontoon bridge to the Mattapony, to enable these troops to cross.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY FORCES,
Port Royal, May 30, 1864.

Colonel GIBSON, U. S. Army,
Commanding Provisional Division:

COLONEL: It seems to me that there is somewhere a great misunderstanding about sending all the forces under my command to report to headquarters of the U. S. Armies at Hanover Junction, or thereabouts, and as an old officer I think it my duty to inform you, as the immediate commander, of the condition of portion of my command. The Fourth New York Cavalry (my regiment), with new horses and equipments, ready for the field of duty, yet without sabers, which I was informed I would receive at White House before starting for the front. The Twenty-second New York Cavalry, fully mounted and equipped, with the exception of 100 men without horses. The First New Hampshire Cavalry has 150 men here without sabers and thoroughly dismounted; the balance of the regiment is one portion escorting prisoners of war at Fort Delaware, and the other guarding transports sent by water at the White House. The Twenty-fifth New York Cavalry, thoroughly dismounted; one portion is escorting prisoners of war at Point Lookout and Fort Delaware, and the other portion left at Aquia Creek or in that vicinity.

The Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry have infantry muskets; 400 mounted without sabers or revolvers and the balance dismounted. The Cavalry Corps has here about 500 men mounted, 200 of whom have their saddles with the train of the army, whose whereabouts is not known by me, and will report for duty without them. Three hundred of the same Cavalry Corps are here, entirely dismounted; I could have mounted them instead of the Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry, but there were no commissioned officers (except some detailed to do duty there without belonging to their command) who could sign a receipt for the delivery of the horses. I was officially informed that these regiments of cavalry would have received all their horses and equipments before starting for the front; and although I am much anxious to be once more in the field, yet I foresee that I will be undoubtedly asked why these regiments are so split in different portions and sent in different directions. Will you please, if you have leisure before I start at daylight, to inform me what answer I shall give when I report to the headquarters of the U. S. Armies at Hanover Junction.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours,

DI CESNOLA,
Colonel Fourth New York Cavalry.

POINT LOOKOUT, *May* 30, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

The One hundred and thirty-ninth Ohio Volunteers, numbering 693, arrived this morning. Lieutenant-Colonel Cross, who left this point May 26, in defiance of orders of Secretary of War, and in violation of his arrest, was sent back under guard by Major-General Butler; arrived here last night. General Butler knew nothing of his arrest and charges when he detailed him to report to General Smith. My cavalry has returned without taking any more deserters. They have done crossing. The senior naval officer here states that the flotilla took about 100 while crossing.

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel, Commanding District.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Fort Monroe, May 30, 1864—11 p. m.
(Received 12.15 a. m. 31st.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

Having left Washington at noon yesterday I have just reached here with men, trains, and other material, except the pontoon rafts which are now on the way. From the scanty transportation furnished me, and only after dark of the 28th, we could not reach here earlier. As I understand the orders, it appears necessary to keep the whole command and material afloat, or so that they can be placed afloat in any one or two hours, for which I must retain the transportation, as I propose to do unless otherwise directed from headquarters.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

11.30 P. M.

I would state that I have less than 1,500 feet of bridging coming down, as I had sent one bridge to Fredericksburg; another has been ordered at Washington to Harper's Ferry.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 30, 1864—8.30 a. m. (Received 1.45 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I take leave to transmit to you the following extract from an examination of a deserter from the City Battalion, Charleston Home State Defense. The same is substantiated by numbers of others:

They have taken away nearly all the troops from the James Island. First, they withdrew one brigade, Hagood's; sent Colquitt's brigade there, and we had but just arrived here when we found Colquitt's brigade came here. Also some men from our regiment, who came up from there to the regiment here, and arrived yesterday, say that there is no one there now but the working men and foreigners from the city, those having business protection and the like.

These may be of use to General Foster.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 30, 1864—6.30 p. m. (Received 1.40 a. m. 31st.)

SECRETARY OF WAR:

I learn from a reliable deserter from the enemy that the Holcombe Legion, consisting of 300 or 400 men, has gone to Charleston, and that Colquitt's brigade is to follow on behind them. They were sent in pursuance to a telegram received by General Beauregard on Saturday, saying that by the time he (Beauregard) received the dispatch Secessionville would be in the hands of the enemy. This the deserter heard from Colonel Gaillard, of the Twenty-seventh South Carolina.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 30, 1864—11.30 a. m.
(Received 12.30 p. m.)

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army:

Have sent and send to-day to White House 91,360 bushels of grain, 670 tons of hay, 1,097 tons of anthracite coal, and 196 tons bituminous coal.

H. BIGGS,
Quartermaster.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 30, 1864—8.30 p. m.
(Received 9.30 p. m.)

Capt. E. S. ALLEN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Washington, D. C.:

Have not a steamer or pilot in harbor. More than half of our steamers have to run without pilots up the York. Have sent for all the York and Pamunkey River pilots that I can hear of, which have been few. Some of General Benham's boats are here. Troops have orders not to disembark anywhere till arrival of General Benham. Tell General Rucker will return the City of Albany and Ranger soon as I can get hold of them.

H. BIGGS,
Chief Quartermaster.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Farrar's Island, James River, May 30, 1864—4 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 1.30 p. m. 31st. Received 2.30 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

A deserter from rebel vessel-of-war Hampton reports to-day that the enemy have now below Drewry's Bluff three iron-clads, six small gun-boats, plated with boiler-iron, each mounting two guns of 6-inch and 4-inch bore, all fitted with torpedoes, and nine fire-ships, filled with combustible material, with which they propose to attack the fleet in James River at as early a moment as practicable by sending down their fire-ships first, closely followed by the iron-clads and other vessels. The deserter says that the vessels have been ready for one week, and that their crews were supplied by men from Lee's

army. Will the Department please send with dispatch by special messenger to Commander Lynch the torpedoes now ready? Can the Department speedily supply six or eight steam-barges?

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

CONFIDENTIAL.] FLAG-SHIP N. ATLANTIC BLOCK. SQUAD.,
James River, May 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: I have information from a deserter from the rebel vessel-of-war Hampton that the enemy have now below Drewry's Bluff three iron-clads, six small gun-boats, plated with boiler-iron, each mounting two guns of 6-inch and 4-inch bore, all fitted with torpedoes, and nine fire-ships filled with combustible material, with which they propose to attack the fleet in James River at as early a moment as practicable by sending down the fire-ships first, closely followed by their iron-clads and other vessels. The deserter says that the vessels have been ready since Monday a week ago, that the crews of the vessels were supplied by men from Lee's army. Information received previously from deserters intimated that the rebel land forces were intended to co-operate with the attack of the rebel naval vessels. If an attack of the nature of the above is made upon the fleet it would at the time of attack require all the forces at my disposal to meet it. I would respectfully suggest the probability of a simultaneous movement against you.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, yours,

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral, N. Atlantic Block. Squad.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, May 30, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Admiral LEE:

Your dispatch relating to fire-ships and enemy's naval force received. In view of the torpedo-boats and fire-ships, had you not better anchor your obstructions, at least, if not sink them, in your front, leaving a channel for pursuit? They are awaiting your orders. Can Graham aid you? General Grant is now across the Pamunkey at Hanovertown, 15 miles from Richmond. As for the land attack, let them come on.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

PRIVATE.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bermuda Hundred, Va., May 30, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

DEAR GENERAL: I take the liberty to suggest to you, in this hasty and unofficial manner, that troops can now be spared from the Department of the South, unless offensive operations are to be resumed

there. The enemy have left very few troops in that quarter. I know of five brigades of Beauregard's men that have come here, and deserters from regiments recently from James Island say that very few troops are left there. Five thousand good troops can, in my opinion, be safely drawn from the Department of the South. The Fifty-second Pennsylvania and One hundred and fourth Pennsylvania were under orders to come with me, but I consented to leave them until they could be spared. They belong to a brigade, the rest of which is now here. A word in regard to matters here: No one is more mortified than myself at the unsuccessful result of operations here. With a force of 3 men to the enemy's 2, we have not only failed to retain an offensive attitude at all, but are now on the defensive, with an enemy fortified in our front between us and the railroad.

I am deeply chagrined at the tone the public press has adopted toward General Butler, and the manner in which they try and mix me up with it. I never authorized a word of news to be published. I have given General Butler a most cordial support throughout, and he knows it. The battle of Drewry's Bluff was a disaster to us, the history of which will be written at no distant day. I am proud of the part my command took in that action. Erroneous reports of the movements of the enemy elsewhere was the cause of the retreat at a time when there seemed to be no necessity for it. What I most regret is my loss in men (3,927 since we landed here) without adequate compensation. The Eighteenth Corps have lost about 2,000 more. I am told nearly 6,000 in all. I commenced 'to write about troops that may be taken from the Department of the South, but have run into other matters unintentionally. There is a long story to be told of operations here, but I cannot act the part of historian now.

Most truly, yours, &c.,

Q. A. GILLMORE.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 30, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

I observe the colored brigade is encamped on the left of Kautz's command. Your attention is called to the order which provides they shall be encamped in the rear of Brooks' right in the open field, as much out of range as may be.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

MAY 30, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

GENERAL: I inclose to you a note* received to-day from Admiral Lee, and my reply* thereto. I would suggest to you the propriety of sending the 20-pounder Parrott gun battery to the right, selecting a good position for it to aid in any attack upon the gun-boats. By a little arrangement of the other artillery, it can be made serviceable on your right and front if needed there. It may be necessary

*See p. 368.

to cut down a few trees to obtain a range for your fire on the river. Please inform Admiral Lee of these dispositions. Perhaps an epaulement might be of use to cover the guns from the battery at Dr. Howlett's house.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 30, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The general commanding suggests that boxes of small-arm ammunition be placed to-night at different points along the parapets, so as to prevent men from leaving for ammunition.

A. MORDECAI,
Captain and Chief of Ordnance.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—6.17 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

The artillery duel along our line does not amount to anything serious. Our picket-line on the extreme left has been forced in a little in one place. I have directed it to be re-established, unless the enemy are present in force.

Yours,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

The picket-line has been re-established.

J. M. B.,
Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—10.35 p. m.

Brigadier-General WEITZEL,
Chief Engineer:

Is it the intention of the commanding general that the new line, cutting off the salient of Battery No. 4, shall be completed? No men are at work there, and I have had no orders on the subject.

Yours,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 30, 1864—11 p. m.

General WEITZEL:

Colonel Serrell's orders from me were to execute your instructions as chief engineer. He was ordered away from me suddenly and

peremptorily, and it is not improbable that other work ordered by you has been suspended in consequence of this. I know nothing whatever about your orders to him. He was ordered to go without delay, and did so.

Q. A. GILLMORE.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
No. 1. } *Near Point of Rocks, Va., May* 30, 1864.

Pursuant to General Orders, No. 3, headquarters Tenth Army Corps, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the forces of all arms on the line of intrenchments on the left of Brigadier-General Kautz's command, and will include the following organizations: Colonel Pond's brigade, Colonel Duncan's brigade, Colonel Onderdonk's First New York Mounted Rifles, and Capt. F. M. Follett's artillery. All reports and returns required by regulations and existing orders will be made to these headquarters. A daily morning field report, showing aggregate only, will be sent to these headquarters by 9 a. m. The tri-monthly will be required by noon on the day on which it is due. Commanding officers of the above organizations will report in person before dark this evening.

By order of Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner:

B. B. KEELER,
Capt., 142d New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

NEAR HAW'S SHOP, VA.,
May 30, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General SMITH,
Eighteenth Army Corps:

Triplicate orders have been sent you to march up the south bank of the Pamunkey to New Castle, there to await further orders. I send with this a brigade of cavalry to accompany you on the march. As yet no further directions can be given you than are contained in your orders. The movements of the enemy this evening on our left down the Mechanicsville road would indicate the possibility of a design on his part to get between you and the Army of the Potomac. They will be so closely watched that nothing would suit me better than such a move. Sheridan is on our left flank with two divisions of cavalry, with directions to watch as far out as he can go on the Mechanicsville and Cold Harbor roads. This, with the care you can give your left flank with the cavalry you have and the brigade sent to you, and a knowledge of the fact that any movement of the enemy toward you cannot fail to be noticed and followed up from here, will make your advance secure. The position of the Army of the Potomac this evening is as follows: The left of the Fifth Corps is on the Shady Grove road, extending to the Mechanicsville road, and about 3 miles south of the Totopotomoy. The Ninth Corps is to the right of the Fifth; then come the Second and Sixth forming a line, being on the road from Hanover Court-House to Cold Harbor, and about 6 miles south of the Court-House.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 39. } *On board Steamer Metamora, May 30, 1864.*

I. The following disposition of troops will be immediately made. The commanding officers of regiments will report as follows: Eighty-ninth New York, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania, and Eighth Maine Volunteers, to Brig. Gen. J. H. Martindale, to form Third Brigade, Second Division. The Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania, Fourth New Hampshire, One hundred and seventeenth New York, Third New York, and One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers, to Brig. Gen. A. Ames. The Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers, to Brig. Gen. W. T. H. Brooks, commanding First Division.

II. Brig. Gen. Charles Devens, jr., is hereby assigned to the Third Division of this command. The following regiments will compose the command, and the commanding officers will report accordingly: First Brigade, Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania, Forty-seventh New York, One hundred and fifteenth New York, and Forty-eighth New York Volunteers; Second Brigade, One hundred and twelfth New York and One hundred and sixty-ninth New York, Thirteenth Indiana, and Ninth Maine Volunteers.

III. Division commanders will report to these headquarters the fulfillment of this order, which must be carried out at once.

By command of Major-General Smith:

CHARLES P. MUHLENBERG,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 30, 1864. (Received 8 a. m.)

General HINKS:

Captain Dollard has just got in. Brings no prisoners. Rebel pickets so posted that it is impossible to get in their rear or flank. They fall back at once on appearance of our forces. Says he can only get a prisoner by charging them in front to bring on a fight, in which he may pick one up.

AMES,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., May 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: A dispatch has been received from the major-general commanding department, calling attention to the fact that the three regiments of General Hinks' division are encamped on your left, and that by the general order of May 26 it is directed that these regiments form the reserve of your line, and be posted in rear of your right. The major-general commanding directs that you make the disposition of these regiments required in the general order, placing them in the open field and as much out of range as possible.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MAGRUDER, VA., *May* 30, 1864.
(Received 2.20 p. m.)

Lieutenant SCHROEDER:

The forces reported at Barnett's Ford on Saturday is confirmed from 2 men sent out on Saturday night, who returned this a. m. They are infantry with some cavalry and part of a pontoon train with which they cross from Gordon's Island to each bank of the Chickahominy. Have sent out a party this a. m. to ascertain more fully their strength. Boats passing the mouth of the Chickahominy must look out for them.

WM. H. P. STEERE,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General THOMAS, *Adjutant-General U. S. Army:*

GENERAL: I beg leave respectfully to call your serious attention to the following facts: At the commencement of the present campaign in Virginia I was directed to send to General Butler every man that could be possibly spared from the defenses of those places in this State that had to be held at all hazards. I had full authority to concentrate my forces, but I did not deem it proper to abandon any of the places held by our forces except Little Washington. For the movement in Virginia one full regiment of cavalry, two of the best field batteries, and five regiments of infantry were sent to Fort Monroe from this place. I had every faith that I could hold the places under my command with the remaining forces, and while the armies are actively engaged in Virginia with my present force. I feel sure that if the navy will take care of the rebel ram in the sounds we can hold everything.

But it is my desire to do something more than this with the small force now here. I have organized two expeditions, one for the purpose of destroying the Roanoke ram and one to menace Wilmington, and with the small rebel force now in this State, I have a reasonable hope of accomplishing the former, and if we can do nothing more we can so annoy them at Wilmington that they may be obliged to divert a portion of their forces from Virginia. The rebel ram at Kinston shall also receive my attention, but I cannot do so many things at once. The terms of service for the Ninety-ninth New York and Seventeenth Massachusetts Volunteers have nearly expired, and when those regiments leave I will scarcely have men enough to man the works around this place. The line here is some 5 miles in extent, and the line of outposts is 12 miles long. Should no troops arrive to replace those regiments so soon to be discharged it will leave a very meager force, not sufficient I fear to resist a force which the enemy ought to send here, for the capture of this place with its stores, its immense number of negroes, &c., would be of incalculable advantage to them. Could not a small force, a brigade or even two regiments, be sent here from the forces about Washington? General Butler being now in the field, and my communication with him being interrupted, I shall send this communication direct to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 30, 1864.

Capt. M. SMITH, U. S. Navy,
Senior Naval Officer, Sounds of North Carolina:

CAPTAIN: I have by no means forgotten your reasonable request for a steamer to remain with your fleet. I have delayed answering in the hope that I would soon be able to send you something that would answer your purpose. At Fort Monroe they have seized everything they could lay their hands on. The army gun-boats here are perfectly worthless at present, and the only dispatch-boat we had I was obliged to send around to Beaufort a few days since. The Rockland is now at Roanoke, and as soon as she returns she will be sent to you, unless I think we can better spare the Massasoit, now up with you. The Massasoit is the best boat, and I desire to give you the best we have. We will take off one boat each week to Roanoke and that will help a little. I have heard nothing from the Massasoit since she left here with the last supply of torpedoes and the parties who were to try to blow up the ram. I hope they may succeed, but I am doubtful. Rest assured, captain, that we will do all in our power here.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 30, 1864.

Capt. B. F. SANDS, U. S. Navy, or
SENIOR NAVAL OFFICER BLOCKADING FLEET,
Off Wilmington:

CAPTAIN: A few days since I addressed you a communication, which was to have been delivered to you by Colonel Jourdan, commanding the Sub-District of Beaufort, in which I begged your co-operation in a movement to be made in the vicinity of Wilmington by the forces under my command, and which expedition was to be commanded by Colonel Jourdan. This letter, the colonel tells me, was not delivered to you, as he had no opportunity of seeing you when you were last off Beaufort. He informs me, however, that he has informed you of the intended movement, and that he supposed you were ready to give such assistance as was in your power. The force designated for this affair has been for some days waiting at Morehead, but for some cause the movement has been delayed and it will, I fear, not take place as we desired unless you will place one or two vessels at the disposition of Colonel Jourdan for the purpose of transporting troops and give us assistance in landing them.

I only ask, captain, that we may have this assistance, and if the thing should prove a success you will have everything to gain, for if Fort Fisher should be captured we could, with your assistance, hold it. If we fail you have nothing to lose. Our men can either return to the boats or they may be able to come through to this place by land. We know tolerably well the position of the enemy's force about Wilmington and the strength of it. Even if we cannot make a grand thing of it we hope to do some good by diverting some of the rebel force in Virginia and thus help the cause. I beg, therefore,

that you will seriously consider this matter, and that you will inform me at the earliest possible moment whether I may count upon your co-operation. Colonel Jourdan knows all the plans, and anything he may say in regard to this matter please regard as coming directly from myself.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HAW'S SHOP, *May* 31, 1864—6 a. m.
(Received 8 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

The enemy came out on our left last evening and attacked. They were easily repulsed and with considerable slaughter. To relieve General Warren, who was on the left, speedily, General Meade ordered an attack by the balance of our line. General Hancock was the only one who received the order in time to make the attack before dark. He drove the enemy from his intrenched skirmish line and still holds it. I have no report of our losses, but suppose them to be light.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 31, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

It is understood that General Benham took to Fort Monroe nearly every available pontoon. If any more can be found they will be sent immediately. Two steamers have left New York for this place with sixty pontoons on board. I have telegraphed to Fort Monroe to intercept them, if possible. If they come here they will be sent back immediately. Please say about how many pontoons, or what length of bridge is wanted, so that I can make arrangements accordingly. If General Hunter meets with no serious disaster I think a part of Sigel's force, at Harper's Ferry and on the road to the Ohio River, can be safely withdrawn. It is too late to send more troops to Hunter, but I can send them to you if you want them. I think four regiments of infantry can be spared.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, *May* 31, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

I know of no one who has a more thorough knowledge of all the passes of the Chickahominy and of the approaches to Richmond than Brig. Gen. J. G. Barnard. Although I do not agree with General Barnard in all his opinions on the strategy of the campaign, I think he is a man of very great military ability, and that

the information which he can give you will be very valuable. His mind is clear and judgment excellent. Of course if you do not want him you will order him back to Washington.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—7.30 a. m.

The major-general commanding directs that corps commanders press forward their skirmishers up against the enemy and ascertain whether any change has taken place in their front, and report the result.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864.

It is intended to send a train of wagons to White House for supplies to-morrow. The sick and wounded will be sent as heretofore in these wagons. The train will be assembled to-day in a convenient locality on the north side of the White House road, east of Mrs. Newton's, and, of course, on the south side of the Pamunkey. Chief quartermasters will cause all the empty wagons in their respective commands to be sent as soon as practicable to-day to the rendezvous indicated. Proper officers must be sent in charge of the wagons, and to draw the required supplies. Reports will be made to me forthwith by the chief quartermasters, showing amount of supplies on hand in the trains, number of empty wagons to be sent to White House to-morrow, what for, and in whose charge.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 148. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864.

* * * * * * *

3. The wounded now with this army will be sent at daylight to-morrow to the White House under the direction of chief quartermaster and medical director; as far as practicable empty wagons will be used for the purpose. Asst. Surg. M. J. Asch, U. S. Army, is placed in immediate charge of the wounded, and will be governed by such special instructions as he may receive from the medical director. The trains from the several corps will rendezvous this afternoon on this side of the Pamunkey, east of Mrs. Newton's and north of the road leading to the White House. Corps commanders will detail such medical officers, attendants, and provide such medical supplies as may be required by their medical directors, and they will all furnish two days' rations for their wounded. The rations will be cooked, if possible. The portion of the Pennsylvania Reserves and Second Regiment New Jersey Volunteers ordered home

for discharge will escort the train to the White House. The commander of the escort will be guided by such instructions as he may receive from the chief quartermaster.

4. The empty wagons about to be sent to the White House will be loaded at that place with the proper proportion of subsistence stores, under such instructions as may be given by the chief commissary of this army. The officer of the subsistence department from each corps will accompany the wagons. Corps commanders will also send with the wagons proper officers to draw the supplies of ammunition they may require.

5. The following regiments recently serving with the Ninth Army Corps will report without delay to Major-General Sheridan, commanding Cavalry Corps: Second Regiment Ohio Veteran Cavalry, Third Regiment New Jersey Cavalry, Thirteenth Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry.

6. The horse batteries of this army will at once be reduced to eight batteries of four guns each, two rifled and two 12-pounder guns. The surplus guns will be sent to Washington via White House. All the caissons necessary to carry the reserve ammunition will be retained, and the batteries in every way made as efficient and complete as possible. The eight horse batteries are assigned to the Cavalry Corps, and will be reported accordingly.

* * * * * * *

9. The troops under the command of Colonel Grimshaw are assigned as follows, and will join their respective commands without delay: Fourth Delaware Volunteer Infantry, Fifth New York Veteran Volunteer Infantry, Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry (dismounted), One hundred and fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, to the Fifth Corps; Fifth New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, Eighty-eighth New York Volunteer Infantry, to the Second Corps; Seventh Michigan Cavalry, to the Cavalry Corps. An officer of the Eighty-eighth New York will report to the provost-marshal-general for instructions as to the dispositions to be made of the stragglers in the charge of that command. The stragglers of the dismounted cavalry will be turned over to Colonel Gould, in charge of dismounted cavalry with the supply train near Hanovertown.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Headquarters will be moved to-morrow at 7 a. m. to Mrs. Via's, near General Warren's headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Warren, Wright, and Burnside.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS.
May 31, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

I gave instructions this morning for the advance of my entire line to coincide with that taken up by General Owen. I now understand

that it is the intention to throw General Owen farther forward. If so, it is my desire to have my line advanced at the same time. It is possible that my people may take the advance of the skirmish line ordered this morning for the advance of the whole line. Please let me know what your intentions are, that I may keep up the connection.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The commanding general desires to know what the firing is in your front.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—10 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The firing in my front is that necessary to carry out my instructions in feeling the enemy. General Barlow has possession of what appears to be their first line of rifle-pits for a distance of what appears to be a brigade front on the left of the Richmond road. General Birney has advanced his skirmishers and taken the line they threw up in front last night. As soon as the matter is developed I will give you detailed information. It is thought the enemy have a line run with a salient more in the front of General Wright. The conduct of the skirmishers in my line was extremely spirited, but I hear nothing going on to the right or left.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

General HUMPHREYS:

Inquire of General Burnside whether his skirmishers have advanced, and with what result. Notify him of Hancock's progress, and notify Hancock of Wright's report.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

An officer of the escort of these headquarters just from your front states that Barlow's troops are in the enemy's intrenchments, and that the enemy has withdrawn all his guns, except one, and is withdrawing that.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—10.15 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Birney now holds the position occupied by the enemy's artillery and skirmishers yesterday, and is now advancing two brigades to same position.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Barlow reports he has driven the enemy from his front, occupying their rifle-pits, and compelling him to withdraw all their guns but one, which he is now advancing on. Should this be the case, you will advance your line so as to press closely the enemy, and ascertain the new position to which he has retired. You will notify Generals Burnside and Wright of any advance you may make, so that they can advance in conjunction, and should you require additional forces in your operations General Wright has surplus troops, which he will be directed to furnish on requisition.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

General HUMPHREYS:

Notify Generals Burnside and Wright of the above dispatch to Hancock, and send them instructions in conformity therewith.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS.

I have not received the dispatch from General Barlow you allude to, though I have sent you all the information I have been able to get. I do not know how the report has reached you. I am following your instructions, however, and have notified General Burnside of my action.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Answered how information reached headquarters.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 31, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Birney reports that he has about 40 prisoners of Breckinridge's command, and that the enemy are now formed in his front

* See Humphreys to Hancock, 10.50 a. m., p. 380.

in line of battle about 800 yards distant, with artillery and infantry, and that he is making preparations to hold the line or to advance when order shall be received. We will hear more from Barlow presently.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Gibbon has now come close up to the enemy's line of works, which in his front are held by Wilcox's division, which relieved this morning Kershaw's brigade. General Barlow's people have also come up to Hill, on General Gibbon's right. Breckinridge seems to be in front of Birney. General Burnside connects with General Gibbon's left, but in rear, and General Gibbon says he has not heard a shot from him yet.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

General Gibbon reports that he occupies the line across the Cold Harbor road which they held yesterday. The prisoners from Birney's front report that they understood the main line to be a mile back; that they heard chopping there during the night. A contraband, not yet received at these headquarters, says that Lee went to Richmond sick three days ago.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—10.45 a. m.
(Received 11.50 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Wright reports the enemy strongly intrenched in Ricketts' front on a high, steep ridge; timber slashed on the slope and abatis immediately in front of the intrenchments. In front of Wright's skirmish line a thickly wooded swamp 300 yards wide; swamp extends to foot of ridge. Their intrenchments extend in front of Russell, the continuation lost in the woods.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The information from Barlow came through an officer of the escort of these headquarters, who happened to be in the front, and who

stated that General Barlow wished him to tell some general officer of the condition of things. Probably intended him to tell you. I sent him to General Meade.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatches of 10 and 10.15 a. m. received. I send the following from General Barlow, as an explanation:

I have the honor to report that the enemy's works in my front, on the bank of the stream just to the left of the Richmond road, had in them this morning only a few skirmishers. General Birney's troops [advanced] and I also advanced my skirmish line, and we occupied part of their works. We did not cause the enemy to withdraw his guns or his line of battle; that was done by them voluntarily in the night. Farther to the left of the road they hold a line of works in force with artillery, and cannot be dislodged without a very strong attack.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Wright is ordered to support you with his whole corps if you attack and should require that degree of support.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I have instructed General Neill, in reserve on my right, to hold his division ready to support you on call. Ricketts and Russell are ordered to advance with your right, and in case the ground in their front is found impracticable, as represented, then to hold themselves in readiness to support you. I have just learned that part of Ricketts' force is in the enemy's first line with your troops.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

My skirmish line has been advanced until it brought up against the enemy in his rifle-pits, and is now engaged with the enemy's

skirmish lines. The enemy's camp is within 600 yards of my skirmishers. I have none but the general order of this morning to advance my line, and that I have done already so far as I can go without attacking the enemy in strong intrenchments with abatis. I am, however, ready to move on with your right.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—1 p. m.

General MEADE:

I have no positive information to give you yet. The skirmishing is heavy along my whole front, but no one reports having come upon the enemy's main line. They hold strongly between Barlow and Birney, the latter being across the creek with his whole division. General Gibbon on my left is briskly engaged also, but not seriously; has one brigade in, and another just going in to support. Most of the artillery firing is from us. My commanders are instructed to press the enemy until he resists with more than a skirmish line, and when they get good ground across the run, to hold it with their main line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I have just returned from my lines. One division (Ricketts') is on your right. Russell's occupies nearly position of last night on the crest of the swamp, with enemy's works on opposite side. I can't cross Russell without serious loss, and believe it best in case an attack is to be made to make it from your front with your force and mine. I am developing no farther than Ricketts' present right. The enemy's works extend past my right, but I think their main line breaks to the rear just beyond my right flank.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

SECOND CORPS,
May 31, 1864—6.50 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I do not propose doing anything more to-night. My command is well deployed along the enemy's line—too much so to be concentrated easily. The two wings are across the creek and the skirmish line of the center, Barlow's division, but his line of battle could not be placed over without a fight at great disadvantage. I suppose I have lost several hundred men. If there are any orders received rendering it necessary for me to get my corps more together I shall hold more nearly the line I did this morning. Their

line appears to have a re-entrant angle in Barlow's front, and have pushed my line as far up into the angle as I could, and it has given me a longer development than I desire. It is one-third longer than it was this morning. Active skirmishing has been going on all day.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—9.40 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Seventeen wagons belonging to this corps while on their way to Port Royal, under escort, a few days since, when within 5 miles of that place, were captured by the enemy, the wagons burned, mules carried away, and the men made prisoners. The circumstances are not yet known, but an investigation will be ordered to ascertain the parties at fault.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Wright is ordered to move his corps to Cold Harbor. You will make your disposition to protect your right flank on the withdrawal of Wright's troops.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I am ordered to move at once to Cold Harbor, and shall withdraw Ricketts' division on your left first, and Neill's, which covers my right, last, and my skirmishers will be withdrawn an hour after Neill moves. Neill is instructed to notify you when his division starts.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

SECOND CORPS,
May 31, 1864—11 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The withdrawal of Wright makes it necessary for me to resume my line of yesterday and this morning, and I have so notified General Burnside. I shall have my picket-line advanced.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—11.05 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK:

GENERAL: Cannot the present left of General Owen remain? It is not a great way in advance of the position it was on this morning.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—11.20 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your dispatch of 11 p. m. received. The major-general commanding directs that you do not withdraw your line of battle unless absolutely compelled to do so. He suggests that you protect your flank by refusing your right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—11.35 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Your instructions will be obeyed, but it will put my whole corps in a weak line; the two flanks being across the creek, and the center unable to cross, and with such an extended line, I cannot have any troops available for other purposes. The line I now hold is not of value, unless an assault is intended, and it is desired to mass troops close to the enemy. I can hold nearly the same ground, with skirmishers and artillery, from my old lines.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

The right of General Birney is over a half mile in front of the Hanover Court-House road.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Division commanders will press forward their skirmishers up against the enemy, and ascertain whether any changes have taken place in their front. Reports will be made in writing of the results.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—11.15 a. m.

The major-general commanding desires division commanders to press forward until they are satisfied they are stopped by something

more than a skirmish line of the enemy. If there is any position across the stream which can be held by the main line securely, it will be taken up, but great care must be taken to clear the front as far as possible by strong skirmish lines before making the crossing with the main force. Corps headquarters will be for the present on the Richmond road, near the Shelton house.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—11 p. m.

In the movement ordered for to-night division commanders are especially requested to take care that no intrenching tools are left behind, but that all are gathered up and properly packed in the wagons.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—11.50 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICERS OF DIVISIONS:

The orders issued this evening, directing the divisions of the corps to be withdrawn to the position on this side the creek, are hereby recalled. The troops will occupy their present lines until further ordered, except that General Birney will make such disposition as he shall think necessary to secure his right flank in the absence of the Sixth Corps.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
May 31, 1864—7.10 a. m.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Colonel Miles thinks the enemy have only a skirmish line in their first line of works on the creek and that they are forming and intrenching a new line of battle some 200 or 300 yards in rear of the creek in the woods. They can be seen digging there and were digging and chopping there during the night. The guns seen yesterday in their gun covers are not visible this morning but are supposed to be in a new position in their new line. I shall try to develop them by an occasional cannon-shot. In front of my skirmish line, on the crest occupied by us in the advance of last night, the enemy are thick (their skirmishers), and vigilant on our front, and their whole skirmish line is active this morning.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General BARLOW, *Commanding Division:*

GENERAL: Major-General Wright, with the Sixth Corps, is ordered to proceed to-night to Cold Harbor. Major-General Birney has been ordered to withdraw to this side of the creek, and General Gibbon also. The major-general commanding directs that your own line be withdrawn to the line held by the Fourth Brigade to-day and extending to the Shelton house. The artillery along the line by the Shelton house will be left in position there, and you will make the same dispositions for covering it. General Gibbon and General Birney have been ordered to place their picket-lines in the intrenchments now held by their lines of battle, and you will conform your new picket-line to that arrangement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
May 31, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: Owen and McKeen have been pretty heavily engaged in front of the enemy's main line, having taken possession of his first line of pits. I have just sent Smyth over to support McKeen, whose fire seems to be the heaviest. The enemy has used one or two pieces of artillery on Owen. I hear nothing of Burnside's troops. I hold Tyler in reserve in a very strong position.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

TOTOPOTOMOY, *May* 31, 1864.

Major NORVELL,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I have pushed back the skirmish line of the enemy, and have occupied their rifle-pits from which they had been picking off my men. In accomplishing this the enemy opened two guns, one commanding the road, and one to the right, firing obliquely across the road and enfilading the advancing line. The guns are posted in the main line of breast-works, which are reported by a prisoner to be a half mile in advance.

Respectfully,

H. BOYD McKEEN,
Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded for the information of Major-General Hancock.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

Colonel McKeen's position is reported to me by Captain Embler as a very strong one.

J. G.

[Second indorsement.]

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

General Owen is on the left of McKeen, and they are intrenching. I have not heard from Barlow yet. His connection on the advanced line appears not yet to be made with Birney.

Respectfully forwarded.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864. (Received 11.50 p. m.)

General BIRNEY:

GENERAL: General Wright, with the Sixth Corps, is ordered to proceed to-night to Cold Harbor. The major-general commanding desires you to withdraw across the creek to-night, taking up the position you held this morning, leaving your skirmishers in the position now occupied by your line of battle, and placing a brigade along the line built for the artillery near the Shelton house, and disposing the rest of your force to protect your right flank from any advance of the enemy in that direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—3.40 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

There has been considerable skirmishing going on last night and this morning where the dead and wounded lie, so that I have been unable to withdraw the Pennsylvania Reserves till after daylight. I am afraid I cannot do it till after daylight to-day. They probably would not like to go until all their dead and wounded had been cared for.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I am directed to say that the portion of the Pennsylvania Reserves to be discharged will not probably be required to report at the supply train to-day. I will let you know when they should report to General Ingalls.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 31, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

From the reconnaissances I have directed, I learn that the enemy's pickets have retired down the Mechanicsville road, so as to uncover Bethesda Church. Their line thus extends across that road to Griffin's front in a southwesterly direction, and they can be heard in the woods beyond chopping. The maps Michler furnished me leave a break between the Richmond and Hanover sheets, and if you have one of your Peninsula maps, I would like to send and get a tracing from it.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

My men in advancing this morning picked up a man belonging to the Fifty-ninth Alabama; he belonged to Buckner's division, which he left at Knoxville to go home, and has now come to join. He says this division has lately arrived and is attached to Longstreet's corps. This corps, he says, is on the rebel left of Ewell's corps now. He says his division was detached to their right, he was told, and in trying to find it he came where Ewell's men were and went to sleep. They went away in the night without his knowing it till my men got him. He says he don't believe now that his division was on their right; he don't know where it is. I send him up by himself.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 31, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Griffin reports a heavy skirmish line of the enemy in his front, and that they were chopping all night. Their reveille was at 2 a. m., and the pickets are of the opinion that they moved to our south and left. This seems to be the opinion of every one along my front. I, however, now have the Bethesda Church, and feel no apprehension of my left if the road from Old Church to Cold Harbor is watched by the cavalry.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The road from Old Church to Cold Harbor is watched by cavalry. General Sheridan reports that his cavalry are within half a mile of Cold Harbor.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 31, 1864—9[.15] a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My skirmishers have crossed the road at Bethesda Church and met with a little opposition in the vicinity of the road. The left extends nearly a mile southeast of the road, finding nothing. The map of the road from Linney's to Bethesda Church and on to Mechanicsville, you know, is correct.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.

P. S.—What is the firing on our right?

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Don't know what the firing is, but take it to be Hancock finding out whether any changes have been made by the enemy in the night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—10.10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I send you copy of dispatch* from Burnside. The commanding general directs that the connection be kept up Hancock is ordered to press close up to the enemy and attack if he finds it practicable; General Burnside to attack in conjunction with him, and Wright to support him with his whole corps. The enemy in Wright's front is so strongly posted that he cannot attack.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

I forward the following report of General Crawford. The number of prisoners here given does not include 31 wounded and in our hospital. General Griffin took upward of 50 during the day while advancing.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA RESERVES,
THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Capt. A. S. MARVIN, Jr.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the following rebel officers were killed and wounded in the affair of yesterday: Colonel Terrill, of the Thirteenth Virginia Regiment; Colonel Willis, com-

* See Burnside to Humphreys, 9.55 a. m., p. 405.

manding Pegram's brigade, of Early's division; Colonel Christian, Forty-ninth Virginia Regiment, wounded and taken prisoner; Major ———, Forty-ninth Virginia Regiment, the assistant adjutant-general Ramsey's [Ramseur's?] brigade, and 4 officers unknown. Six commissioned officers and 70 enlisted men prisoners. Sixty rebels buried.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

MAY 31, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

We captured Colonel Christian last night, wounded. Buried Colonel Terrill, and have it reported by Colonel Christian that Colonel Willis was killed too. All of them, I believe, of Pegram's brigade.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—11 a. m.

General WARREN:

Hancock's three divisions have possession of the enemy's first line of intrenchments where their artillery was yesterday. They find a second line, and the enemy in line of battle 800 yards from the first line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general directs that the portion of the Pennsylvania Reserves to be ordered home for discharge, report with the least practicable delay at the place which has been ordered as the rendezvous for the train of empty wagons, to be escorted by the Reserves to the White House. The rendezvous is on this side of the Pamunkey, east of Mrs. Newton's house, and north of the road leading to the White House. Colonel Hardin is here, and the special instructions for the commander of the escort will be communicated to him.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There is no way to get the papers properly made out for the Reserves in time for them to go with the train to-morrow, than for

General Crawford to at once take the whole command to the place where the wagons now are; these that go away can then be attended to first, and General Crawford can reorganize the remainder and bring them back.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864—12 m.

Captain MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

About 90 yards south of Harmon Haw's house, near Bethesda Church, the enemy are throwing up works or intrenchments, the road the enemy are on being a little west of south, and leads to Mechanicsville. The Twelfth Massachusetts on picket at that point, and connect with the Fourth Division on the right.

D. E. CASTLE,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My picket-line now feels the enemy, I believe, throughout. There is a ravine near the Bethesda Church running southwesterly to the Matadequin, and another running west, crossing the road; we are toward Shady Grove, this side of Pole Green Church, and there running into the Totopotomoy. These ravines are intricate, woody, and swampy, and almost impassable; the enemy's pickets are on the south side, we on the other. My route, if I advance toward the enemy, would probably be toward the Bethesda Church, and here the enemy would have a strong front. General Burnside has a similar position to advance toward Shady Grove, and his troops are as many as could operate on this road. I think if the enemy makes any opposition he will not be able to advance far. I have directed connection to be kept up with him. I am waiting for reports of casualties yesterday sent for early this morning. Crawford with Kitching lost, 417; Lockwood, 25; Griffin and Cutler not yet reported. We have buried about 100 rebels.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 31, 1864—1 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I made a mistake in my last dispatch in giving the direction of the enemy's line; it is southeasterly, not southwesterly. Apparently they cover Shady Grove and Cold Harbor. I have Michler's complete map now.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

I have a copy of Peninsula maps, from which you can have copy traced. If I had one to spare you should have it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

A little beyond the position, on the Shady Grove road, occcupied by General Burnside now, one of the branches of the Totopotomoy, heading in swamps near Bethesda Church, crosses the road; my men held the other side of that, I am informed, till relieved by General Burnside this morning, when he withdrew back to this side, and has not since advanced beyond it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

MAY 31, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I have just learned, from Dr. Winslow, that among some reenforcements coming to the army, now on the way with a train from Port Royal, is my old regiment, the Fifth New York Volunteers. When it comes I hope it will be assigned to me, as I can fill it up with men left of two New York regiments whose organizations are gone. This will make a full colonel of its present commander, as he was before its reorganization, and he is a most reliable officer.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The Fifth New York has been assigned to your corps.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Dr. Milhau says a conversation was overheard between the wounded rebel Colonel Christian and Dr. Brockenbrough, in which he said they would not fall back across the Chickahominy unless they were outflanked. He said, too, that General Lee had been so sick with diarrhea as to be off duty a few days, but that he was in the saddle again yesterday.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My officers at Bethesda Church distinctly heard the enemy moving artillery in that vicinity toward our left during the firing to-day in the direction of Cold Harbor.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My pickets near Bethesda Church report a brisk skirmish going on now in a direction southeast from that place, apparently distant about 2 miles.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The firing toward Cold Harbor remains at about the same point, but appears to go on brisker.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864.

Major-General WARREN, *Comdg. Fifth Army Corps:*

The commanding general directs that the portion of the Pennsylvania Reserves to be discharged report to the place heretofore indicated early to-morrow morning. The commanding general does not consider it necessary that General Crawford, and the men who are not to be discharged, should go to the trains. He decides that the reorganization must be effected without withdrawing from the front those who are to remain.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Comdg. Fifth Army Corps:*

The Sixth Corps is ordered to Cold Harbor. Is the road to that place from Bethesda Church open, or does the enemy hold any part of it? Our cavalry are now in Cold Harbor, having driven the enemy's cavalry and infantry, but it is expected the enemy will be re-enforced, and the cavalry forced back before Wright can get there, and therefore it is important he should move by the shortest route.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

MAY 31, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

The enemy have held the road from Bethesda Church to Cold Harbor and intrenched it all day. It is a poor road anyhow. It is much more practicable for General Wright to move via Old Church, I think, even if the enemy was not on the road.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 60. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *May* 31, 1864.

Division commanders will see that their skirmish line is pushed out as far as possible, and to keep advancing and have it well supported, if necessary. If any have retired from their advanced position they must be replaced and kept well out, so as to observe every movement on the part of the enemy.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 62. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *May* 31, 1864—6.10 a. m.

Division commanders will report at once to these headquarters whether the enemy is found in their front this morning, and how far out our troops have advanced, and what the signs and whereabouts of the enemy are, and any other information of importance.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., FIFTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864—6.30 a. m.

General GRIFFIN,
Commanding Division, Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: I have reports from picket-line and from personal observation of one of my staff officers, that the enemy are on my (present) front, beyond a morass on a crest, chopping and talking, and probably digging. The crest alluded to is from one-half to three-fourths of a mile from the road along my line. The enemy were heard during the night passing down to my left, apparently with artillery. At 2 o'clock this morning they had reveille, and by their talking, &c., appeared to be moving to the right.

Very respectfully,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 31, 1864. (Received 8 a. m.)

General GRIFFIN:

As soon as you have troops disposable by the action of General Burnside's troops relieving yours, I wish you would replace the

troops of General Cutler on General Crawford's right (one brigade and three regiments), so that General Cutler can get his division together. I will then have a few troops disposable for any attack on the center, if made. I wish you would have this done as soon as you feel your line to be strong enough to make this extension left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864—8 a. m.

General WARREN:

The enemy is in my front, or so reported by Generals Ayres and Bartlett. They were chopping all night, and now have a heavy skirmish line. The first portion of the night the enemy was reported moving to our left. General Ayres reports that his reveille sounded at 2 o'clock, and seemed to move a portion of his command to our right.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

MAY 31, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

General Burnside's troops are all across the Totopotomoy. If you will let him relieve your division, you can move down toward our center, and we will then make the other troops advance.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 31, 1864—9.45 a. m.

General GRIFFIN.

I wish you to extend your line to the left, and replace General Cutler's troops as far as you can with a single line of battle; if necessary, with one brigade in reserve. I am throwing the left of our line forward to Bethesda Church, and shall attack the enemy there at once. They are moving in force toward Cold Harbor, to which point General Wright, with the Sixth Corps, is also moving. My attack is to be a diversion in favor of Wright, and prevent their accumulating against him. Baldy Smith is coming up to take position between Wright and me, but it will take all day to do it. Relieve General Cutler's line as above as soon as you can. Do not take any count of Kitching's detachment, for I shall move them.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

MAY 31, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

I send you some dispatches just received to read and return. You must keep up connection with General Burnside's left as he advances.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division, Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding wishes to know whether your troops have been relieved of their position they held last evening by those of General Crittenden.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division, Fifth Army Corps:

If the enemy should renew the attack in front of General Crawford you must try and support them, if necessary, and I wish to have your men relieve the Pennsylvania Reserves, whose time is out to-day.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: In reply to communication just received, I have the honor to report that one brigade of this division has been relieved (and now held in reserve) by two brigades of General Burnside's command, numbering about 1,400 men. If General Crawford is attacked I will try and support him with two or even three brigades, covering my own front with a heavy skirmish line. If the artillery was properly disposed in General Crawford's front, I believe it would be impossible to force him to retire. The Second Brigade, First Division, is now in rear of General Crawford's position, disposable for any emergency.

Very respectfully, &c.,

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

General H. H. LOCKWOOD.
Commanding Second Division:

I have not allowed Colonel Leonard to take command of the brigade in which his regiment (the Thirteenth Massachusetts) is serving, since he left it at the Wilderness from sickness. He now considers himself able to do duty, and I am willing he should return to the command of his regiment, but not to displace Colonel Lyle in the command of the brigade at present. If he should be able to con-

tinue on duty sufficiently long to prove his ability to do so under difficult marches, battles, and bad weather, you can, as soon as your judgment approves, recommend him to be restored to the command of the brigade.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
May 31, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have sent out scouts to ascertain the position of the enemy. They have returned and report that they came upon the enemy's pickets about 400 yards from the cross-roads, and that his pickets were on the south of the Mechanicsville road, and at right angles to it. They saw none north of the road. The enemy were hard at work chopping, and words of command were heard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS PENNSYLVANIA RESERVES,
THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Capt. A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following statement of casualties in my command on the 30th instant:

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Missing.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
First Brigade	.....	7	4	42	2	79	134
Third Brigade	.....	.....	2	16	.....	4	22
Kitching's brigade	.....	16	3	141	.....	101	261
Artillery Brigade	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	.....	23	9	199	2	184	417

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Captain MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

SIR: My skirmishers in front of Colonel Hofmann (to the right of General Lockwood) are out about 1 mile, and still moving on. Those

between Crawford and Griffin are out about the same distance. Both lines are pushing on and find no enemy as yet. I have staff officers with both lines. I have ordered them to keep moving whether those on the right or left move or not.

Very respectfully,

L. CUTLER.

As my command is now so far out, I should like to get it together before the line of battle advances.

L. C.,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Captain MARVIN:

SIR: The skirmish lines of my troops, both on the right and left of Crawford, are out 1¾ miles. They have connected, leaving Crawford's skirmishers in the rear. The Second Division skirmishers are on my left. Nothing on my right. My right finds no enemy. On my left they are skirmishing with the enemy and hear them chopping down trees.

Very respectfully,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Captain MARVIN:

The officer in charge of the left of my skirmishers reports the enemy making intrenchments 1¾ miles out on the Mechanicsville road. I am supporting my line and pushing it forward. I will try to dislodge them if they are not in too large force.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Captain MARVIN:

SIR: I have sent three regiments to support my skirmishers on my right; have found the enemy's pickets behind rifle-pits. I think there is no force, but a heavy skirmish line. I am going to try to drive them out, and would like to have Lockwood push up on my left. Crawford's line is so far in my rear, and it is so woody, that I do not care to have him advance for fear they will fire on my men by mistake.

Yours,

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Captain MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: My pickets connect with Griffin on the right and Lockwood on the left; Crawford's pickets are in the rear in the same piece of wood; it embarrasses my men. I ask that they be withdrawn.

L. CUTLER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you throw forward your right, push out skirmishers, and ascertain where the enemy is in your front, and what position he holds.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—9.05 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy's intrenchments extend in front of Russell, the continuation being lost in the woods on the other side of the swamp, supposed to be the Totopotomoy, or one of its branches. How far the left extends I have not yet learned, but am expecting further report every minute.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I respectfully report the result of the advance of my skirmish line as ordered this morning. The enemy appears to be strongly intrenched along my entire front, occupying a high ridge, difficult of ascent, and in some places perpendicular. The timber is slashed on the slope of the ridge, and immediately in front of the intrenchments (which are some distance back from the brow of the ridge) is an abatis. Immediately in front of my skirmish line is a swamp, thickly wooded, and averaging about 300 yards in width. The swamp extends to the foot of the ridge occupied by the enemy, and is occupied on the farther side by sharpshooters.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following is General Ricketts' report:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Col. M. T. MCMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Agreeably to your directions, I have the honor to report as the result of the examination of my division front, that the enemy is strongly posted on a high ridge, very steep ascent, with a swamp intervening, and an abatis extending the whole length. It is impracticable to attack along my front with the division.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JAMES B. RICKETTS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you continue your examination by your skirmishers as far as possible to the right, and endeavor to find some assailable point. Should you not find such, you will send staff officers to learn the nearest roads and routes for your infantry, artillery, and trains to move, after dark, to Warren's rear.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

MAY 31, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

I send you copy* of instructions to General Hancock. The commanding general directs that you advance in conjunction with General Hancock, and send to him any of your surplus troops he may ask for that you can spare.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you be prepared to support General Hancock with your whole corps should he attack.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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*See Meade to Hancock, 10.20 a. m. 31st, p. 379.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—11.20 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatches of 10.20 and 11 a. m. just received. I had already ordered Ricketts and Russell to advance with Hancock's right, and to push their skirmishers at once forward. Neill's, massed on the right, is held in readiness to move to Hancock's support, as will be also the divisions of Ricketts and Russell in case the nature of the ground, which is represented as nearly impracticable in their front, prevents their advance. The withdrawal of Neill will uncover our right.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT:

I have occupied the enemy's first line of yesterday, and am ordered to press forward closely to ascertain their new position, and am informed that Generals Wright and Burnside will be directed to advance at the same time.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

There seems to be no doubt that the enemy overlap my right, such being the report of my own and some of the staff officers of General Russell. Russell has been for two hours engaged in a critical examination of his front, but has not reported yet. Part of Ricketts' division has occupied the enemy's first line with the Second Corps. I am just going to the front, leaving Colonel McMahon here.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My Third Division has crossed the marsh and taken position in enemy's first line on right of Second Corps, doing this by turning the marsh in front of Second Corps batteries. I have instructed Russell to connect on right if he can possibly cross the swamp in his vicinity. Report from officer of the day, Third Division, is that enemy has moved toward our right. This may be to prevent being outflanked, or possibly to turn our right. I will look out for it, and shall not move Neill without pressing necessity, as he is all we have on the right of the army.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—1.50 p. m.

The following has been received from General Neill in relation to our right and rear:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Colonel MCMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sixth Corps:

A report from Colonel Edwards, commanding brigade at Taliaferro's Mill, says that some 20 of the enemy's cavalry have been seen on the right of his (Edwards') line of pickets, about half a mile in rear of the road from mill to Overton's, and Colonel E. asks for one or two companies of cavalry. I told him I had no cavalry, and that a brigade of General Wilson's cavalry had been ordered to connect with him. I deem this of sufficient importance to forward.

Very respectfully,

THOS. H. NEILL,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—2 p. m. (Received 2.45 p. m.)

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Wilcox's division, of Hill's corps, is in front of my left in works. They moved down from in front of our right and relieved Longstreet within a very short time. My right is close to the enemy, also with Breckinridge in front; although my headquarters are fixed at the place mentioned before, yet I remain at the Shelton house during these operations.

Yours, &c.,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Russell says it is quite impossible to cross the swamp in his front under the enemy's fire, and my own examination confirms it. The enemy's line is on the other crest, the first being a pit for skirmishers, which follows nearly our own skirmish line; the other, the main line, which breaks back a few hundred yards beyond our right. I don't think it advisable to attempt crossing here, and shall hold the two divisions ready to support Hancock, if needed. I have been using one battery on the enemy's line, and shall shortly open with another on a camp which can be seen from where I now am.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

General Neill's dispatch received. Has no communication been had with you by the commander of the cavalry covering the right of the army? Do your pickets and the cavalry pickets connect?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864. (Received 2.55 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Wright is now at the front. An officer from General Wilson was here this morning to ascertain the right of our line, and to connect with it. I suppose he made the connection. I will send to Colonel Edwards to learn if he does not connect with General Wilson, and will notify you.

M. T. McMAHON.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—4.30 p. m. (Received 4.35 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Staff officers have returned and report the only roads to Warren's rear or left to be by Haw's Shop; thence either by passing Via's, where his headquarters are, or by the Old Church road. The latter, which leads to Warren's left, is represented as the better of the two.

H. G. WRIGHT.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

The commanding general directs me to say that there is a very good route for your troops to Warren's, passing by Burnside's headquarters, much shorter than routes you mention, made by Burnside's troops yesterday.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SIXTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864. (Received 6.50 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Colonel Edwards, commanding brigade on my right, reports that he cannot find any cavalry on his right, but that a company has just gone out conducted by one of his staff officers to find and connect with his flank.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

MAY 31, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

You will immediately withdraw your corps from its present position and move to Cold Harbor, about 2½ miles east of Bethesda Church. Our cavalry now have possession of Cold Harbor, having this afternoon driven from it the enemy's cavalry and infantry. The cavalry are directed to hold on until your arrival, and it is of the utmost importance you should reach the point as soon after daylight as possible. Your route will be by Haw's Shop and Old Church. You will endeavor, if possible, to notify the cavalry on your right of your withdrawal. Possibly a road from Gilman's may be found cutting off Old Church. You will notify General Hancock when the last of your troops are moving.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SIXTH CORPS,
May 31, 1864—12 m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The cavalry have not connected on my right, and I am unable to notify them of my withdrawal.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—5 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

It is my wish that your troops might take up the position occupied by General Griffin, and allow of his being moved farther to the left. So far only one brigade has been thus relieved by General Crittenden. General Griffin may have covered more ground than Crittenden thinks he took, but no enemy was found within a mile of that front at dark; it is believed to be not particularly threatened. There is skirmishing to the left of General Griffin this morning, and it has been going on all night. It is held by the Pennsylvania Reserves, who have to be relieved to-day on account of the expiration of their term of service. In order that I keep communication with you, without having my line broken, I renew my request to relieve General Griffin, or at least one or more of his brigades.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Fifth Army Corps:

Your dispatch received. Will attend to your request at once. I thought it had already been attended to.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—9.45 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

The commanding general desires to know what the firing is on your front.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—9.55 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

My command is advancing to the new line, and our skirmishers are advancing in accordance with orders of this morning from your headquarters. The opposition is trifling thus far. The cannonading is from Hancock's batteries, I think. Ours are quiet.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

MAY 31, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following circular* was sent out this morning, a copy of which is sent for your information. There must be some mistake as to the number of Griffin's men relieved last night, but I will know definitely very soon. All quiet on my front.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—10.30 [a. m.].

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I send you a copy of instructions† to General Hancock. The commanding general directs that you advance in conjunction with General Hancock.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
May 31, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

I have occupied the enemy's first line of yesterday, and am ordered to press forward closely to ascertain their new position; and am informed that Generals Wright and Burnside will be directed to advance at the same time.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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*See circular, p. 409.
†See Meade to Hancock, 10.20 a. m. 31st, p. 379.

HDQRS. SECOND ARMY CORPS, *May* 31, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

I am advancing my skirmish line along my whole front to find out whether the enemy have changed their position, and am making only such changes as may be necessary to keep my line well up against the enemy. I have been engaged in this for the last two hours. My delay in answering your dispatch* arises from my having been absent.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The commanding general desires to know whether your skirmishers have advanced, and, if so, with what result. General Hancock reports General Barlow in possession of enemy's first line of rifle-pits for the distance of a brigade front. The enemy has withdrawn his guns. General Birney has possession of the line occupied yesterday by the enemy's skirmishers and artillery.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—2.25 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I should have reported before, but have been unable to obtain any definite knowledge of the enemy's works until now. We have advanced our skirmishers about a mile, and our main line of battle about three-fourths of a mile. We find the enemy posted very strongly on the crest of a ridge with a heavy line. The ground that has been passed over is very difficult, and that between us and the enemy is still more difficult. Our connection with the Second Corps has been kept up as perfectly as the nature of the ground will allow. We will continue to push forward as far as possible.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HANCOCK'S, *May* 31, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I am informed you have posted Potter's division between Warren's and Hancock's, and have two divisions in reserve. You will communicate with Warren, who is advancing to feel the enemy's position, and you will advance Potter to keep up the connections now existing, and in case Warren's movements should make a gap, you will promptly fill it with your command.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Should Warren require any aid give it to him from your surplus.

MEADE.

(Copy to Warren.)

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*See Burnside to Hancock, 8.30 a. m., p. 377.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Comdg. Ninth Army Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Gibbon reports his left much in advance of your line, and requests that it may be advanced to and keep pace with the line of the left of the Second Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—3.10 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

My line is engaged and advancing as rapidly as possible. General Gibbon is possibly mistaken in his report. If General Gibbon is advancing faster than we are, he has fewer obstacles in his front. The general commanding may be sure that we are doing all in our power; the nature of the ground renders it impossible to make the connection perfect. The line of skirmishers is perfect.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have carried what has been probably called the enemy's first line of works, which is nothing more than a line of detached rifle-pits. My main line occupies that line with skirmishers well in advance. A very strong line of the enemy's works has been developed in my immediate front, with artillery in position on either flank. Farther advance is impossible without bringing on a general engagement, which I do not understand is contemplated by the order. Connection with General Owen, Second Corps, is established, and he reports a like position of the enemy on his front. If it is desired that an attack be made, our lines are in condition to do so at short notice. Please answer at once, as the message has to be carried to me by an orderly, and it is desirable that the attack be made before sundown, if at all. Should no advance be made to-night, I propose to intrench in my present position.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Comdg. Ninth Corps:*

Your dispatch of 5.20 p. m. is received. The commanding general does not intend that you should attack the enemy in his intrenched position. He approves your intention of intrenching.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Since writing you General Potter has succeeded in throwing his force across what seemed to be an almost impassable ravine in his front, and is now intrenching his line. I think we will be able early to-morrow to take some open ground in front, which will give us fine positions for artillery. We are entirely in advance of the road which Major Duane telegraphed to Major Morton about; it comes into Shady Grove road, in rear of our line and makes a passage for troops and trains between the Second and Fifth Corps. When I left the line a few minutes ago our pickets reported sounds which indicated the passage of troops along the Mechanicsville road toward our left. The reports were indefinite, but we may hear something more reliable soon; if so, I will inform you.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers, one of the veteran regiments of the Ninth Corps, is now with General Lockwood in the Fifth Corps. It would seem proper that it should go in its own corps, and I respectfully request that it may be ordered to do so.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864. (Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

There was heavy cannonading heard about 6 p. m. on our extreme left. Have you received any information as to what it was and the result?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The cannonading you heard was Sheridan at Cold Harbor engaged with the enemy's cavalry and infantry. He maintains his position there.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Totopotomoy Creek, May 31, 1864.

Generals Potter and Willcox will at once take measures to advance their lines so as to connect (by the best line) on the left with the extreme advance of General Griffin's line of yesterday, and on the right with General Owen, of the Second Corps. It is believed that this line will be shorter than the one now occupied. General Crittenden will immediately take steps to relieve the remainder of General Griffin's division, or certainly all of it that he has troops for, and will report at once by a staff officer the present state of his line. General Warren represents that but one of General Griffin's brigades has been relieved, which I think is a mistake.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I find the enemy very strongly posted on my left and center. Owing to the nature of the ground at that point, we cannot move forward a line of battle. My skirmishers report a continuous and regular line of rifle-pits in their front. Major Gilmour and two lieutenants of the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers have just been badly wounded, and we have met with some considerable loss on that line. Colonel Griffin does not think it a safe place to advance a line, in which opinion I concur, as I have been over as much of the ground as it was possible to get over. I have ordered Griffin to try and make a connection with Second Corps by moving to the right. My skirmishers have been almost all the time in advance of those of the Second Corps, and my right very considerably advanced, but owing to the nature of the ground, a connection with their main line could not be maintained, unless I cut loose from the rest of the corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I find that General Owen's (Second Corps) line is not at all in advance of mine. By extending to the right about the front of two regiments the connection of the main lines is complete. This I have ordered done, and is probably now executed. The skirmishers of neither force can be much, if any, advanced here, as we seem to be close up to what is the enemy's main work. General Owen describes it as very strong in his front. My men are exposed to fire of artillery from their left, as also from the right. The nature of the ground

makes the lines very irregular. Major Lydig has just brought me your order. I don't think I can do anything with skirmishers in my front, however strong, but will try to regularly attack. I should have support.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
White House, May 31, 1864—2.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. J. A. RAWLINS, *Chief of Staff:*

SIR: Captain Hudson arrived here at 1 a. m. to-day with the copy of dispatch, the first copy having reached me two hours before. On Saturday evening, the 28th instant, between 6 and 7 o'clock I received my orders to march my command to the landings to embark for this place. By 11 a. m. on Sunday the infantry force was mostly on board, but an insufficiency of transportation for wagons and artillery detained a great many steamers that were to take tows. My advance arrived at 11 a. m. yesterday, and things have been coming in all day. There have as yet arrived only parts of three divisions and a part of three batteries. The wagons only of one brigade have arrived. As soon as I can land and get issued three days' rations for the men's haversacks I shall move with what force I can collect to comply with the orders of the lieutenant-general, leaving the remainder of my command and supplies to follow as soon as possible. I left City Point with 16,000 infantry, 16 pieces of artillery, and a company of cavalry, the latter having been sent yesterday a. m. early from West Point to communicate with your headquarters, via the north side of Pamunkey River.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Bassett's, May 31, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding United States Army:

SIR: I have the honor to report the head of my column at this place. I shall encamp to-night between the New Castle Ferry road and the Piping Tree Ferry road, parallel to the Old Church road and along it. Finding the New Castle Ferry picketed I shall save the command the extra march unless I receive orders from you to go there. I have twenty-four wagons to this command, three days' rations in haversacks, and two days' beef on the hoof, between 40 and 60 rounds of infantry ammunition, and no artillery ammunition, save what is in the caissons. Three thousand men, under General Ames, were left as a garrison at White House with orders to join me as soon as General Abercrombie commences to disembark. I trust the remainder of my wagons will be up to-morrow; they are ordered to join me with supplies of forage, ammunition, and subsistence.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—1 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my pickets communicate with General Warren's command. The left of the infantry line rests upon the road to Bethesda Church, about 300 yards beyond Gilman's Mill. General Torbert's advance is within about one-half mile of Cold Harbor.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Eleventh Alabama Infantry, belonging to Rodes' division, Ewell's corps, Battle's brigade, came into our lines last evening. He reports Lee's army strongly intrenched near Mechanicsville; that Rodes' division marched out yesterday 1½ miles this side of the works to make a reconnaissance, but he is unable to state whether the whole army marched out at the same time or not.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Cold Harbor, Va., May 31, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: All the indications to-day lead to the belief that the enemy meditated an attack on the First Division of cavalry posted 1½ miles from Cold Harbor, so I gave permission to General Torbert to attack them. He did so, encountering Fitz. Lee's division of cavalry and one brigade of Hoke's division of infantry (Clingman's), driving them from their barricades in Cold Harbor, and capturing about half a regiment and 15 of Clingman's infantry. Since then the second brigade, of Hoke's division, has arrived. I do not feel able to hold this place, and have directed General Torbert to resume his position of this morning. Lee's line of battle is in front of Mechanicsville, and, with the heavy odds against me here, I do not think it prudent to hold on. The enemy is now extending toward Gaines' Hill, to cover the bridges across the Chickahominy.

The First Division behaved very gallantly. The wounded are all being sent to the rear. We will have 70 or 80.

Very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Mrs. Sayers' House, May 31, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

SIR: The detachment sent to the White House with Captain Johnson has just returned. Reports General Smith there, and a portion of his troops not yet landed; some of the transports aground. The road is clear. Saw no enemy; got no intelligence of any.

Very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General. Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION,
May 31, 1864.

Colonel DEVIN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: There will be an advance of the division on Cold Harbor this p. m. You will be in the saddle and start promptly at 4 p. m. on the road where your scouts went this morning. From all information I can gain, you can go within 1½ miles of Cold Harbor without meeting their pickets. Keep a few men ahead, and when they meet the enemy halt and let your command close up. When you hear that I am well engaged on the right, where General Merritt will advance, I want you to make a bold push for Cold Harbor. It is possible you may have to dismount a regiment to attack the enemy, but you must send one or two saber regiments in among their led horses. General Custer will send one regiment across the country from his present position, starting at 4 p. m. Caution your men of this, and don't fire on them if they get into Cold Harbor in advance, or while marching up there. Have no bugle calls while getting ready. Endeavor to communicate with me across country. I will be on the road where General Merritt is.

Yours, &c.,

A. T. A. TORBERT,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you order a brigade or its equivalent to march at 5 a. m. to-day to the White House, and report to Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith. This brigade will probably find him on this side of White House en route to join the Army of the Potomac, and will return with him. By direction of General Sheridan, I forward you two official communications for General Smith, and one for the assistant adjutant-general, General Grant's headquarters, Washington. These letters you will send to General Smith without delay.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST MASSACHUSETTS CAVALRY,
May 31, 1864—8 p. m.

Capt. F. L. TREMAIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to state that my picket-line is established, and sentinels all posted. The enemy's outposts are within 600 yards of mine. I shall form a connection with General Torbert by a mounted patrol in the morning.

I remain, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. E. CHAMBERLAIN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. First Massachusetts Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Dr. Price's, May 31, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS:

Your note of 30th May, 10.30 p. m., is just received. You speak of the two objects of my remaining in this position, to cover the right of the army, and destroy the railroad and bridges. I have been relieved from the duty of destroying railroads by an order from General Sheridan, and am confining myself exclusively to covering the right.

This morning my advance on the Hanover Court-House road met Young's brigade, or a part of it, and after a smart skirmish drove it across Mechump's Creek. I have now one brigade holding the forks of the road near Winston's house, and occupying the Richmond road in force to Kinney's, covering its junction with the Mechanicsville road, with orders to patrol to the right of the army. The other brigade is at the crossing of Crump's Creek; but, if you think necessary, it might be moved to the vicinity of Aenon Church, or the grave yard. Be good enough to inform me of your wishes by return courier. I think my present position more defensible and affording better means of communication with the right of the army than the one behind the creek. I am making reconnaissances, however, to satisfy myself on that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Price's House, Va., May 31, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff, Cavalry Corps:

COLONEL: After a very brisk little fight I drove the enemy's cavalry through Hanover Court-House, which we now occupy, and as I have received direct instructions from army headquarters to the purport that previously given orders to destroy the railroads and bridges were not revoked, I shall leave but two regiments here at Price's house to do the picketing and patrolling from the river to the infantry line, and with the remaining part of my division shall leave at the earliest possible hour to-morrow morning in the direction of the South Anna and the two railroads, endeavoring to carry out the requirements of General Meade's order.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Hanover Court-House, Va., May 31, 1864—11 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I regret exceedingly not having received your communications of this evening at an earlier hour. I also regret not having received the original order directing me to destroy the railroads. I have fully explained all I know concerning the order revoking it to the staff officer sent me this evening. He arrived at nearly 7 p. m., followed shortly after by Captain Ulffers, and, though the enemy had begun a demonstration against me, I moved forward at once on the road to Hanover Court-House, and after a very sharp fight drove the enemy from a very strong position on the north side of Mechump's Creek, and through Hanover Court-House, taking some prisoners and killing quite a number. The rebels were commanded in person by General Young, and were probably his brigade, and two pieces of artillery. It was after 9 o'clock when the action ceased. My men were fatigued from their fighting to-day, and ammunition exhausted. I have therefore concluded to halt for the night, recruit men and horses, get ammunition and provisions, so as to push out at the first dawn of day. I shall leave two regiments to patrol from the right of the army to the river.

Having no appliances for the destruction of bridges, would it not be well to send me a half dozen barrels of powder and some slow match? If you do so, it should be here before 3.30 a. m. My officers and men have behaved with great gallantry this afternoon. Colonel McIntosh deserves promotion as one of the most competent brigade commanders in the army.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Haw's Shop, May 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding U. S. Forces, White House, Va.:

GENERAL: I have no special directions for you at present, further than to say that you will forward all re-enforcements for this army as rapidly as possible; give every facility for the loading of trains for supplies, and, when it is practicable, send re-enforcements along to guard the trains. I want all stragglers who go to the rear apprehended and sent back under guard to the provost-marshal-general, General Patrick. When commissioned officers are so apprehended, cause their buttons and shoulder-straps to be publicly cut from their coats, and send them with their hands bound here for trial.

Very respectfully,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

PORT ROYAL, *May* 31, 1864—7.30 a. m.
(Received 9 a. m.)

Major-General HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Everything that is to go to the front from here is now en route. The infirm unable to march are being embarked for

White House and leave at or before 12 m. The Eighth Illinois Cavalry are being withdrawn from the telegraph line, and ordered to report to General Augur by land. The operators are ordered on board transports, consequently this will be the last dispatch from this point; 490 dismounted cavalry arrived this a. m.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

WHITE HOUSE, VA., *May* 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN A. RAWLINS, U. S. Volunteers,
Chief of Staff to Lieutenant-General Grant, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that, protected by an armed force of cavalry and infantry (in obedience to instructions from headquarters Armies of the United States to Brigadier-General Abercrombie), under command of Colonel Di Cesnola, Fourth New York Cavalry, I proceeded to Jones' field, in the Wilderness, on the 27th instant; recovered all the wounded at that point, 86 in number, mostly from the Second Corps; brought them safely to Fredericksburg, Va.; had them placed on board of a transport the same night, and they are probably by this time in general hospital, Washington.

From a few prisoners captured belonging to the Ambulance Corps of the so-called Confederate Army, it was learned that the enemy were removing the wounded, our own and theirs, from their hospitals at Parker's Store and Robertson's Tavern, to Gordonsville and Richmond. I hope that in the performance of these duties I have met the approbation of the lieutenant-general commanding the Armies of the United States,

While I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. DE W. BRENEMAN,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 31, 1864—6.30 p. m. (Received 11 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Yesterday all day heavy firing in the direction of Mechanicsville. Six refugees from Richmond report Grant on Mechanicsville turnpike, 6 miles from Richmond, yesterday. They heard the firing, and that Grant was driving Lee. A woman reports that a meeting was held yesterday while she was in Richmond to see whether the city should be surrendered or burned. The mayor advocated surrender, and was put in Castle Thunder. The enemy attacked my lines yesterday, and were repulsed. To-day all day they have been demonstrating against my works on Spring Hill, easterly side of the Appomattox, but are repulsed.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 31, 1861.
(Received 10 p. m.)

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL U. S. ARMY:

Your dispatch received. The Pamunkey is not obstructed to White House. The enemy are reported in some force at mouth of Chickahominy with pontoon trains, which I don't believe.

HERMAN BIGGS,
Chief Quartermaster.

WASHINGTON, *May* 31, 1864—1 p. m.
(Received 3.55 p. m.)

COMMANDING OFFICER FORT MONROE AND YORKTOWN:

All pontoon bridges at Fortress Monroe or Yorktown, or which may arrive at these places, will be sent to Major-General Butler, Bermuda Hundred.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General, &c.

Lieutenant-Colonel Biggs, chief quartermaster, will please send this at once to General Benham, who will be guided by the order.

By command of Major-General Butler:

H. T. SCHROEDER,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Copy has been sent to commanding officer at Yorktown.

OPERATOR,
Fort Monroe Office.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Fort Monroe, Va., May 31, 1864—4 p. m.
(Received 6.20 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

I have just had sent to me by Lieutenant-Colonel Biggs, quartermaster at this post, an order of General Halleck to him that all pontoon bridging that arrives here shall be sent to General Butler. I, therefore, propose when the pontoons arrive, as is not the case as yet, to send some 150 to 200 men with them to General Butler, and retain here the balance of the brigade, with the special material, trains, &c., for your further orders. This I presume to be what you would desire.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

FORT MONROE, *May* 31, 1864.

Major DAVIS:

General Benham, with the Engineer Brigade of the Army of the Potomac, is here awaiting orders from General Grant or Meade.

H. T. SCHROEDER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May* 31, 1864—3 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER AT FORT MONROE:

The steamer Victor was to leave New York on the 25th, and the steamer Sentinel on the 30th, for this city. They have on board sixty pontoons. If you can intercept these vessels, their bridge equipage will be sent, as before ordered, up the James River.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, *May* 31, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

This* came from Grant via Yorktown this evening. Our building party is now 17 miles beyond Gloucester Point. They have seen some rebel pickets, and I fear the line will be cut unless well picketed. We hope to reach White House and beyond in two days more.

G. D. SHELDON.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—7.36 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

I have this moment received your dispatch of 8.20 last evening, inclosing dispatch from Admiral Lee and your reply, and will give the matter my immediate attention.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—8.15 a. m.

General BUTLER,
Commanding:

We cannot afford efficient help to the navy with our guns on the bluff. The position is too high for effective fire. It is possible that a battery can be placed at the mouth of the ravine on my right, by constructing a road down the ravine, but a battery there would be of no assistance against a land attack. Would you be willing to put a battery down there, if it can be done? I have ordered the 20-pounder battery to Curtis' house

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

POINT OF ROCKS, *May* 31, 1864—12 m.

General GILLMORE:

I am no engineer, but still must insist that the bluff near Curtis', which is about 50 feet high, is the place for the 20-pounders to aid the navy. At 5 degrees their range is 2,100 yards. To attack Admiral Lee, the rebels must come around Dutch Gap and Farrar's

* See Grant to Halleck, 6 a. m. 31st, p. 375.

Island, every foot of which is within 2,000 yards of your guns so placed for more than 3 miles. If a height is not the best position to meet gun-boats, why have the rebels put their battery at Howlett's about 50 feet high instead of at Farrar's Island where they would be even with the water? Why is a plunging fire ever thought the best? Why build very high castellated forts like Sumter and Calhoun to oppose ships? Rebel General Whiting made a sort of martello tower at Wilmington with logs and sand to resist our ships 60 feet high to mount heavy guns. He was an engineer officer of the army, brought up at the feet of cannon-ball. Under the advice of my chief engineer and in my own judgment I must adhere to the bluff. General Weitzel will point out the site.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—1.50 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

I have ordered the 20-pounder battery to Curtis' house as directed, and it is now there. My opinion as to its proper place against shipping I cannot change at will. Colonel Abbot entertains the same views I do. I respectfully submit that the reasons for constructing works, tier above tier, are other than those referred to by you. General Weitzel should locate the battery at once. We do not know how soon it may be required.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—3.25 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

I have had the height of bluff at Curtis' house measured. It is 135 feet above level of water.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 31, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

Major-General Butler directs that as soon as possible you send an official return of all men left by the Eighteenth Army Corps now in your command, and that all returns sent to these headquarters hereafter be signed officially.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GILLMORE'S,
May 31, 1864.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The inspection return dated May 29 includes all the men of the Eighteenth Army Corps left behind. A detailed return will be sent to-morrow. If any return has been sent in without being signed officially it was an inadvertency.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S,
May 31, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The lookout on the Curtis house reports five steamers at Chaffin's. Admiral Lee knows it. The 20-pounders will be in position to-morrow a. m. as directed. The returns asked for and ordered are not in yet.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIEGE ARTILLERY,
Near Hatcher's, May 31, 1864.

Lieut. Col. EDWARD W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have inspected the line of defenses, as directed in your letter of 29th instant, and have the honor to make the following report, which has been delayed twenty-four hours by special duty assigned me by General Butler: The general disposition of the artillery I regard as the best which can be made, except in the location of the 20-pounder battery of Ashby, which should be placed on the bank considerably below its present location, where a fine opportunity to enfilade the river from a height of about 50 feet is offered. A parapet would be required there to protect the guns from the Howlett house battery. I have found it impossible to form a good idea of the number of infantry soldiers available at different points of the line, owing to the miscellaneous character of the troops.

I think that there ought to be at least 4,000 good infantry between Battery No. 1 and No. 6, this being the probable point of attack—this to be exclusive of the pickets. The troops should be near the parapet, so as to be able to take cover promptly from the enemy's shells, which are very dangerous a short distance in rear of the parapet, or else be held in reserve at least half a mile back. Our reduced numbers seem to render the former the best disposition. I think the strengthening of the new line in rear of Batteries No. 4 and 5 is the most pressing work now demanded. General Kautz informs me that he has some 800 cavalry, armed only with pistols. There are also many included who have apparently no arms. It seems to me that this requires immediate attention.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Arty. and Chief of Arty. Defenses.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
May 31, 1864—10.25 a. m.

General TERRY:

The enemy have made an attack on Hinks, on other side of Appomattox. It may be only a diversion. We may be attacked. Keep your troops well in hand, and assume command of all artillery within the limits of your line. The First Regiment Connecticut Artillery are available for serving the guns and manning parapet as infantry.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

(Same to Generals Turner and Kautz.)

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6.

HDQRS. TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va.,
May 31, 1864.

I. The general officers commanding on the line of intrenchments will take immediate steps to render available the services of every officer and man within the limits of their respective commands capable of bearing arms for defense.

II. In case of attack by the enemy, the companies and detachments of the First Regiment Connecticut Heavy Artillery distributed along the line will be under orders of the officer within the limits of whose command they may be stationed, and will be used to serve their guns and man the parapet near them.

III. The artillery fire of the line will not be expended for trivial causes.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 31, 1864.

General Hinks will tell me exactly how many troops he can take from City Point and Spring Hill for the purpose of a movement on Petersburg—infantry and cavalry alone wanted. I have sent 500 men from Duncan's brigade to Spring Hill to-day.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS,
May 31, 1864.

General Wild will say exactly how many troops he can spare me and hold his place, under the circumstances, at Wilson's Wharf. Give me all the men, and the best organized he has. I don't want artillery, but infantry. He will also go to Fort Powhatan and see how many troops may be spared there, so long as Fort Powhatan is covered, and what is the best organization to send from there. In-

fantry alone is wanted, to be returned there after a special purpose. This information is wanted immediately, to be sent me by dispatch-boat, which brings this. It will also take General Wild to Fort Powhatan, his own boat taking him back again.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS HINKS' DIVISION,
City Point, Va., May 31, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: In the event of a movement being made upon Petersburg, it would not be prudent to leave City Point with less than 500 men, and a like number should be left at Spring Hill. This would leave free for movement the regiments in Duncan's brigade, and the regiment of Colonel Ames at Spring Hill, and of Colonel Russell's cavalry at City Point, say 2,632 men and officers.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
E. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

MAY 31, 1864—9.50 a. m.

General HINKS:

Your forces at Spring Hill are being attacked by the enemy in force. I have ordered over Duncan's brigade. Can you not open from City Point?

B. F. BUTLER.

MAY 31, 1864. (Received 10.15 a. m.)

General HINKS:

If you march to the relief of Spring Hill take care there is no force to cut you off. Beware of surprise.

BUTLER,
General.

MAY 31, 1864. (Received 11 a. m.)

General HINKS:

Have you received my telegram?

BUTLER,
General.

MAY 31, 1864—11.15 a. m.

General BUTLER:

Your telegram has been received.

HINKS,
General.

MAY 31, 1864—12.25 p. m.

Colonel AMES:

I send re-enforcements; perhaps you can drive them out of the brush. As soon as possible cut that skirt of woods between you and our left, so that we can cover your flanks.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION, *May* 31, 1864.

General BUTLER:

I think there is no need of re-enforcements. The enemy occupy the river bank to the right of here, a little above the point visited yesterday. They seem to be creeping up a little, as if to post their sharpshooters in the brush.

AMES,
Colonel.

MAY 31, 1864. (Received 12.30 p. m.)

General HINKS:

Is Special Orders, No. 35, to be carried out at once, or wait till the enemy leaves our front? It orders the 20-pounders to City Point. Is there an attack at City Point?

AMES,
Colonel.

MAY 31, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Colonel AMES:

Special Orders. No. 35, is suspended till the enemy has retired and all is quiet. When the enemy has retired, send Captain Dollard to reconnoiter and obtain all the information possible.

HINKS,
General.

SPRING HILL, *May* 31, 1864—4.15 p. m.

General BUTLER:

I know nothing. A cloud of dust has been seen, and the enemy's cavalry reported. I have sent out our cavalry to make observations.

AMES,
Colonel.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE APPOMATTOX,
May 31, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

The forces opposite are attacked by a heavy force of the enemy.

YOUNG,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

MAY 31, 1864.

General BUTLER:

Colonel Ames reports a large force of the enemy coming in on his left.

NORTON,
Captain.

MAY 31, 1864—5 p. m.

Colonel AMES:

Where is the enemy?

HINKS,
General.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION, *May* 31, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

The enemy is not advancing; he is still firing; he has men on foot; cavalry dismounted: nothing serious yet; I can hold out.

AMES,
Colonel.

LATER.—The enemy reported coming in on our left.

MAY 31, 1864.
(Received 8.45 p. m.)

General HINKS:

As nearly as I can make out there is a battalion of cavalry at Livesay's house; a brigade of cavalry in our front in the woods with the skirmish line in the road this side of our usual picket-line; a section or perhaps two rifled pieces near the road left of Cedar Grove road. I do not think there is any infantry. They hold on to their advance line obstinately, though driven back several times. They also occupy Broadway and vicinity. I cannot tell the force. Their reconnaissance to the front and right shows about 600 or 700 cavalry. Lady Lincoln is here yet unloaded, the men all being at the front.

AMES,
Colonel.

SIGNAL STATION, *May* 31, 1864—1.15 p. m.

General BUTLER:

We may need the Twenty-second Regiment. I have ordered Colonel Kiddoo to move to Point of Rocks, and be in readiness to cross if you give him the order. Don't fire from your side at present, as it will endanger our own skirmish line.

DUNCAN,
Colonel.

MAY 31, 1864—6 p. m.

Colonel GARRARD:

How many carbines, with the utmost pluck, under good officers, can you spare me in the lines to-morrow?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Farrar's Island, May 31, 1864—1.45 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 8.30 p. m. June 1. Received 9 p. m.)

Hon. G. WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Heard considerable cannonading for one hour last evening and four hours this morning in the direction of Richmond. A deserter to the army says they are mounting one 200-pounder at Howlett's, and that the rams were to have come down last night. Their torpedoes and fire-rafts will probably be down soon.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 31, 1864.

Major ECKERT:

I understand, and will communicate with Bickford. Following just received from Homan: "Palmer's party met rebel pickets about 12 miles from Gloucester Point; the party expects an attack. I have got 25 more cavalry from adjutant-general to send Palmer." Have expected this, but Palmer started with 90 guards and 30 men for fatigue duty.

G. D. SHELDON.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to call your attention to the condition of affairs at Hatteras, N. C. The peculiar formation of the soil and the constant washing of the sea have already partially destroyed Fort Clark, and with every strong wind the parapet is nearly buried in the sand. Upon investigation I find that the Ocracoke Inlet possesses the same advantages as the inlet at Hatteras, and I propose, with the approval of the Department, to reoccupy the fort at Portsmouth or the fort on Beacon Island, both commanding the entrance to the inlet, and remove the garrison and guns from Fort Clark to one or both of these points, demolishing Fort Clark and leaving the garrison at Fort Hatteras to protect the entrance to the sounds of North Carolina by way of Hatteras Inlet. I beg leave to request that the attention of the Commission for the Establishment of Light-Houses may be called to the fact that the light at Ocracoke Inlet should be at once established, and also that the Coast Survey should at once buoy out the channel through the inlet, as has already been

done at Hatteras. The harbor at Ocracoke far exceeds in extent that at Hatteras, and by opening the former route the distance between this point and Beaufort, or any other point south of this, is shortened at least 45 miles.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[MAY 31, 1864.—For Innis N. Palmer to L. Thomas, relative to evacuation of Washington, N. C., see Vol. XXXIII, p. 309.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 31, 1864.

Maj. Gen. BENJAMIN F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina, in the Field:

GENERAL: I did hope that before this time we would be able, even with our meager force, to do something to convince you that we were alive to the general situation of affairs. We may yet do so, but in my first enterprise I have been delayed by not having been able to obtain the co-operation of the navy. I have no complaints to make, as I do not know that there is any blame to be attached to any one. I have informed myself of what I believe to be the true state of affairs at Wilmington, and I believe confidently that we might capture Fort Fisher by a *coup de main.* I only need the assistance of two or three vessels to assist in transporting a small force of picked men, say 1,000, and of small boats to land them. The men were selected, all sent to Morehead, and Colonel Jourdan knew the ground. He went and made the examination himself around Masonborough Inlet, and I communicated through him my views and wishes to the senior naval officer off Wilmington (Captain Sands), and everything was, as I supposed, arranged for the departure of the force several days since. Yesterday, however, Colonel Jourdan came to inform me that Captain Sands, who had promised everything I desired, had gone north, and returned to Beaufort, and from there he had proceeded to the blockading fleet without leaving any orders in relation to the expedition. As there is no officer at Morehead who will take the responsibility of furnishing the vessel, we are at a standstill. This morning I have dispatched a letter to Captain Sands, in which I have requested to be informed whether he [will] co-operate. If he will not, I must move my force in some other direction. My expedition to blow up the Roanoke ram I have not yet heard from.

The term of service of two of the regiments now here has nearly expired. This will leave me very short-handed. You know I am not in the habit of calling for help, but do you not think that they could spare a raw brigade, or even two regiments, from the troops around Washington City? I could soon put them into shape, and they could hold this place, while with the remaining old troops I could worry the enemy not a little. I would like to do a little more than "hold on here." I would like to kick a little. At the same time I have thought it not improper, on account of my communication with you being interrupted, to suggest to the Adjutant-General the matter of sending some of the force around Washington, if, indeed,

they have that force there. I find upon a fair examination that Ocracoke Inlet has now become quite as good if not better than Hatteras Inlet, while the harbor at the former place is infinitely better, and there is the same depth of water in the swash. At Hatteras, the wastings, drifting, &c., have made Fort Clark perfectly useless. I shall, I think, abandon Clark and re-establish the fort at Ocracoke; have the bar and harbor buoyed out.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., May 31, 1864.

Capt. MELANCTON SMITH, U. S. Navy,
Senior Naval Officer, Sounds of North Carolina:

CAPTAIN: Yours of yesterday is just received. The Neuse ram I keep under tolerably good surveillance, and for the present she is harmless. The deserters are not well informed about her. I hope for the success of my captain on the Massasoit, but I have my doubts. I know you will assist him in every way in your power. The Rockland steamer goes up to Roanoke to-day, to remain there and to assist you in every way she can. The quartermaster at the island has been notified that she is there for the naval service at the island. Please inform me if she will perform all the duty required by you. Have you ice and vegetables with you? We can send you them occasionally, I think, if you desire.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

Abstract from return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding, for May 31, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	53	.....	53	53	.....	.....
Provost Guard (Patrick)	79	1,203	1,553	2,279	.....	.....
Engineer Brigade (Benham)	46	1,809	2,122	2,604	.....	.....
Battalion U. S. Engineers (Mendell)	6	321	371	432	.....	.....
Artillery (Hunt)	29	586	695	812	.....	30
Guards and orderlies	3	56	88	96	.....	.....
Signal Corps (Fisher)	15	211	238	284	.....	.....
Second Army Corps (Hancock)	1,292	25,688	31,153	53,831	.....	48
Fifth Army Corps (Warren)	878	17,366	22,887	38,541	.....	48
Sixth Army Corps (Wright)	961	21,635	26,830	38,069	.....	48
Ninth Army Corps (Burnside)	883	19,047	23,071	35,408	.....	46
Cavalry Corps (Sheridan)	674	14,592	20,559	31,209	.....	22
Total	4,919	102,514	129,620	203,618	....	242

*Abstract from returns of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of May, 1864.**

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	24	.....	24	25	.....	.....
Signal Corps (Norton)	25	121	150	175	.....	.....
Naval Brigade (Graham)	17	377	418	633	(†)	(†)
Siege Artillery (Abbot)	59	1,302	1,418	1,658	(†)	(†)
Cavalry Division (Kautz)	221	5,347	6,637	8,282	8	6
13th Company Massachusetts Heavy Artillery (Pickering)	5	116	123	152	.....	.....
District of North Carolina (Palmer)	286	5,755	7,623	9,475	129	46
District of Saint Mary's, Md. (Draper)	78	2,146	2,595	3,222	(†)	(†)
District of Eastern Virginia (Shepley)	174	5,728	6,840	10,521	.....	16
Hinks' division (Hinks)	247	5,627	6,600	7,510	.....	18
Tenth Army Corps (Gillmore)	264	6,480	8,186	25,074	.....	50
Eighteenth Army Corps (Smith)	367	8,170	9,615	17,149	.....	6
Unassigned cavalry	61	1,191	1,408	1,712	.....	5
Total	1,828	42,360	49,637	85,588	.....	.....
Total according to department monthly return	1,710	39,302	48,097	81,246	.....	.....
Total according to department tri-monthly return	1,719	38,677	47,703	82,503	.....	.....

Organization of troops in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, May 31, 1864.‡

NAVAL BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES K. GRAHAM.

13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company I, Capt. Warren Hallett.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company K, Capt. John S. Gordon.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Company A, Lieut. William G. Rohrman.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Company G, Capt. Joseph W. Sanderson.

SIEGE ARTILLERY.

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT.

1st Connecticut Heavy, Col. Henry L. Abbot.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy, Company M, Capt. Frederick Korte.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Capt. LEMUEL B. NORTON.

CAVALRY DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. AUGUST V. KAUTZ.

First Brigade.

Col. SIMON H. MIX.

1st District of Columbia, Lieut. Col. Everton J. Conger.
3d New York, Lieut. Col. George W. Lewis.

Second Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL P. SPEAR.

5th Pennsylvania, Col. Robert M. West.
11th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. George Stetzel.

* Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.
† Not reported on returns.
‡ For organization of the Army of the Potomac for May 31, 1864, see Part I, p. 198.

Artillery.

New York Light, 8th Battery, Lieut. Peter Morton.
Wisconsin Light, 4th Battery, Capt. George B. Easterly.

UNASSIGNED.

13th Company Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Capt. John Pickering, jr.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, Col. Jeptha Garrard.
2d U. S. Colored Cavalry, Col. George W. Cole.

TENTH ARMY CORPS.*

Maj. Gen. QUINCY A. GILLMORE.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED H. TERRY.

First Brigade.

Col. JOSHUA B. HOWELL.

39th Illinois, Capt. Leroy A. Baker.
62d Ohio, Lieut. Col. Samuel B. Taylor.
67th Ohio, Col. Alvin C. Voris.
85th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edward Campbell.

Second Brigade.

Col. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.

6th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Lorenzo Meeker.
7th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Daniel C. Rodman.
3d New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Josiah I. Plimpton.
7th New Hampshire, Col. Joseph C. Abbott.

Third Brigade.

Col. HARRIS M. PLAISTED.

10th Connecticut, Col. John L. Otis.
11th Maine, Lieut. Col. Winslow P. Spofford.
24th Massachusetts, Col. Francis A. Osborn.
100th New York, Col. George B. Dandy.

Artillery.

Capt. ALFRED P. ROCKWELL.

Connecticut Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Alfred P. Rockwell.
New Jersey Light, 5th Battery, Capt. Zenas C. Warren.
3d United States, Battery E, Lieut. John R. Myrick.

UNATTACHED ARTILLERY.†

New Jersey Light, 4th Battery, Lieut. Charles R. Doane.
New York Light, 33d Battery, Capt. Alger M. Wheeler.
3d Rhode Island, Battery C, Capt. Martin S. James.
1st United States, Battery D, Lieut. Joseph P. Sanger.

UNATTACHED CAVALRY AND ENGINEERS.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry (battalion), Maj. Atherton H. Stevens, jr.
1st New York Engineers (detachment), Col. Edward W. Serrell.

* The troops of the Second and Third Divisions temporarily assigned to the Eighteenth Corps, and organized as the Third Division of the latter corps May 30. See p. 372.

† From Second and Third Divisions.

EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM T. H. BROOKS.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. GILMAN MARSTON.

81st New York, Col. Jacob J. De Forest.
96th New York, Col. Edgar M. Cullen.
98th New York, Col. Frederick F. Wead.
139th New York, Lieut. Col. Edgar Perry.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HIRAM BURNHAM.

8th Connecticut, Capt. Charles M. Coit.
10th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. John Coughlin.
13th New Hampshire, Col. Aaron F. Stevens.
118th New York, Capt. Levi S. Dominy.

Third Brigade.

Col. GUY V. HENRY.

21st Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Thomas F. Burpee.
40th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. George E. Marshall.
92d New York, Lieut. Col. Hiram Anderson, jr.
58th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Montgomery Martin.
188th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. George K. Bowen.
1st U. S. Artillery, Battery B, Capt. Samuel S. Elder.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN H. MARTINDALE.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE J. STANNARD.

23d Massachusetts, Col. Andrew Elwell.
25th Massachusetts, Capt. Francis E. Goodwin.
27th Massachusetts, Maj. William A. Walker.
9th New Jersey, Capt. Augustus Thompson.
55th Pennsylvania, Capt. George H. Hill.

Second Brigade.

Col. GRIFFIN A. STEDMAN, JR.

11th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. William C. Moegling.
8th Maine, Maj. William M. McArthur.
2d New Hampshire, Col. Edward L. Bailey.
12th New Hampshire, Maj. John F. Langley.
148th New York, Col. George M. Guion.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES DEVENS, Jr.

First Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM B. BARTON.

47th New York, Lieut. Col. Christopher R. MacDonald.
48th New York, Lieut. Col. Dudley W. Strickland.
115th New York, Maj. Ezra L. Walrath.
76th Pennsylvania, Col. John C. Campbell.

Second Brigade.

Col. JEREMIAH C. DRAKE.

13th Indiana, Col. Cyrus J. Dobbs.
9th Maine, Capt. Robert J. Gray.
112th New York, Capt. Joseph S. Mathews.
169th New York, Col. John McConihe.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ADELBERT AMES.

4th New Hampshire, Col. Louis Bell.
3d New York, Col. Samuel M. Alford.
117th New York, Col. Alvin White.
142d New York, Col. N. Martin Curtis.
97th Pennsylvania, Col. Henry R. Guss.

HINKS' DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD W. HINKS.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD A. WILD.

1st U. S. Colored Troops, Col. John H. Holman.
10th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Spencer H. Stafford.
22d U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Joseph B. Kiddoo.
37th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Abial G. Chamberlain.

Second Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL A. DUNCAN.

4th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. George Rogers.
5th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. James W. Conine.
6th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. John W. Ames.

*Provisional Brigade.**

Col. ARNOLD A. RAND.

13th New York Heavy Artillery (detachment), Capt. William Pendrell.
2d U. S. Colored Light Artillery, Battery B, Capt. Francis C. Choate.
4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Francis Washburn.
5th Massachusetts Colored Cavalry, Col. Henry S. Russell.

Artillery.

3d New York Light, Battery K, Capt. James R. Angel.
3d New York Light, Battery M, Capt. John H. Howell.

Miscellaneous.

16th New York Heavy Artillery (detachment), Capt. Henry C. Thompson.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (detachment), Capt. Franz von Schilling.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, Company A, Capt. Charles W. Dey.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, Company F (detachment), Capt. Charles Schwartz.
2d U. S. Colored Cavalry, Company D, Capt. Robert Dollard.

UNATTACHED.

1st New York Mounted Rifles, Col. Benjamin F. Onderdonk.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery E, Capt. George E. Ashby.

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*Organized May 27.

DISTRICT OF EASTERN VIRGINIA.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE F. SHEPLEY.

PORTSMOUTH.

Brig. Gen. ISRAEL VOGDES.

2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, 3d Battalion, Lieut. Col. Augustus B. R. Sprague.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery H, Capt. William J. Riggs.
8th New York Battery, Capt. Butler Fitch.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. James W. Walsh.
1st Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Battery A, Capt. John G. Simpson.

NORFOLK.

1st U. S. Volunteers, Lieut. Col. Charles A. R. Dimon.
38th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Dexter E. Clapp.
20th New York Cavalry, Company M, Capt. Frederick Stewart.

FORT MONROE.

Col. JOSEPH ROBERTS.

3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Col. Joseph Roberts.
2d Battalion U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Capt. Allen Shepard.

NEWPORT NEWS.

16th New York Battery, Capt. Richard H. Lee.

EASTVILLE.

Purnell Legion (Maryland) Cavalry, Capt. Robert E. Duvall.

DEFENSES OF YORKTOWN.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH B. CARR.

16th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Joseph J. Morrison.
1st Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Battery E, Capt. Thomas G. Orwig.
1st New York Mounted Rifles, Company K, Capt. Minott A. Pruyn.

FORT MAGRUDER (WILLIAMSBURG).

Col. WILLIAM H. P. STEERE.

16th New York Heavy Artillery, 1st Battalion, Maj. Frederick W. Prince.
1st New York Mounted Rifles (detachment).

DISTRICT OF SAINT MARY'S, MD.

Col. ALONZO G. DRAPER.

139th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Jacob L. Wayne.
4th Rhode Island, Lieut. Col. Martin P. Buffum.
36th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Benjamin F. Pratt.
20th U. S. Veteran Reserve Corps, Lieut. Col. George A. Washburne.
2d and 5th U. S. Cavalry (detachments), Lieut. John Mix.
2d Wisconsin Battery, Capt. Charles Beger.

DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. INNIS N. PALMER.

SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HARLAND.

15th Connecticut, Col. Charles L. Upham.
17th Massachusetts, Maj. Luther Day.
1st North Carolina (detachment), Capt. Richard J. Allen.
99th New York, Maj. John F. Bates.
132d New York, Col. Peter J. Claassen.
12th New York Cavalry, Col. James W. Savage.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Col. Jones Frankle.
3d New York Light Artillery, Col. Charles H. Stewart.
23d New York Battery, Capt. Alfred Ransom.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. George W. Tew.
1st North Carolina Colored Heavy Artillery (recruits), Maj. Thorndike C. Jameson.

SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE.

Col. DAVID W. WARDROP.

16th Connecticut, Capt. Joseph H. Barnum.
85th New York, Lieut. Col. Will W. Clarke.
101st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Charles A. Geissenhainer.
103d Pennsylvania, Capt. Thomas A. Cochran.
24th New York Battery, Lieut. Walter H. Luther.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company D, Capt. James Moran.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company I, Capt. Charles Taft.

SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT.

Col. JAMES JOURDAN.

1st North Carolina (four companies), Col. Joseph M. McChesney.
1st North Carolina (two companies), Maj. Charles C. Graves.
1st North Carolina (one company), Capt. James W. Atwill.
2d North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Walter S. Poor.
158th New York (ten companies), Lieut. Col. William H. McNary.
9th Vermont (ten companies), Col. Edward H. Ripley.
1st North Carolina (one company), Capt. George W. Graham.
23d New York Cavalry, Companies A and B, Capt. Emory Cummings.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company B, Capt. Nehemiah P. Fuller.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery (two companies), Lieut. Col. Henry M. Stone.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery (one company), Capt. Charles B. Newton.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery C (section), Lieut. Enoch Jones.
1st U. S. Artillery, Battery C, Lieut. Egbert W. Olcott.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding:

GENERAL: What are your views about to-morrow? I think the attack should be renewed as soon as Hancock is within supporting distance, and should be made by Wright, Smith, and Hancock. I have heard nothing from Smith, and do not believe he was much engaged this afternoon. He is aware of the telegraph from Wright's

headquarters, but does not report. Hancock has been urged to push forward with dispatch and guides sent him. I think his advance will be at Cold Harbor early in the morning, say by 6 a. m. Warren does not seem to have effected anything in his front, except repulsing attacks made on him. He should, however, be ordered to attack in conjunction with the others. Burnside I would hold ready to re-enforce Warren, if necessary.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

Headquarters to move at 7 a. m., to a point in the road to Cold Harbor and in rear of that place.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Camp near Via's House, June 1, 1864—10.40 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires me to say that he thinks the attack should be renewed to-morrow morning by all means, but not till Hancock is within supporting distance of Smith. Warren should attack in conjunction with Smith and Wright, and Burnside be held in readiness to support Warren.

Very respectfully,

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
June 1, 1864—10.40 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Lieutenant-General Grant desires that General Lockwood be at once relieved from his command and directed to report to these headquarters for orders.

Very respectfully,

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 149. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *June* 1, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Capt. Daniel D. Wiley, U. S. Volunteers, is assigned to duty as chief commissary of subsistence of the Army of the Potomac at White House, Va. He will at once assume the duties of the chief of the department at that place, and be governed by such instructions as he may receive from the chief commissary of this army.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—12.15 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your dispatch of 11.50 p. m. received. The commanding general desires you to hold as much on the other side as possible, but if necessary you can bring Birney to this side, leaving Gibbon on the other side, so that Burnside need not withdraw.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The commanding general directs that you continue to press the enemy with your skirmishers, and endeavor to develop his line of battle and line of works, and that you make frequent reports to these headquarters, which, until further orders, will be near the headquarters of the Fifth Corps.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Burnside and Warren.)

SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Will you please inform me where our cavalry is on my right?

HANCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—7.05 a. m. (Received 7.20 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The chief of staff says that they were yesterday within 200 yards of Wright's right, and that if you will send up on the road to Hanover Court-House you will find them. General Wilson was informed of the withdrawal of General Wright, and directed to picket accordingly.

S. F. BARSTOW.

HANCOCK'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 1, 1864—[9.20 a. m.]

Major-General MEADE:

I have ordered skirmishers to be kept pressing the enemy. Nothing transpiring at the moment. I will advise you whenever anything occurs or develops.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps.

Your dispatch of 9.20 is received. The commanding general directs that you push your skirmish line well to your right, to notify you of any movement of the enemy. If pressed, they can be drawn in toward you.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Hold your command in readiness to attack in your front. Warren and Wright will undoubtedly be engaged soon, and it may be necessary for you to attack to relieve them.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to Burnside.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have now some troops at Overton's, where the enemy's scouts were seen. They were driven away from there. When my infantry went out they had a skirmish line farther over to the left toward the swamp, but that was driven away also. One of the prisoners captured stated that two brigades of the enemy moved over to our right. I cannot learn anything authentic concerning it, but have sent my escort up from Aenon Church toward Hanover Court-House road to see if anything is passing on that road, or to inquire if our cavalry can be found, from which I have heard nothing.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—10.55 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The following just received from General Barlow:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS—9.55 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER:

COLONEL: The left of my skirmish line is slowly advancing on the skirmish line of the enemy, which is a strong one, intrenched. We are fired on heavily. The works of the enemy are seen in rear of the intrenched skirmish line, strong works, but we cannot yet see how strongly manned. On the right of my line in front of the salient we have advanced as far as a skirmish line can do. The enemy have

an intrenched strong skirmish line behind a swamp, and a line of strong works behind the skirmish line. We are close onto the skirmish line. How strongly manned their line of battle is here we cannot tell without an assault in force. Colonel Miles is of opinion that their works are manned by a line of battle in his immediate front.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Anderson's division is on the extreme left, in front of the Sixth Corps; Breckinridge is next, and I judge then that Wilcox and the other part of Hill's corps came in, as we took prisoners from Wilcox in that position all yesterday. This is from the examination of prisoners just received.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—11.35 a. m.

Major-General MEADE

The following just received:

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS—11 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: General Owen reports that his skirmishers are as far forward as they can go. He reports the enemy stronger than he supposed in his front and left front, and that his men are being killed and wounded in some cases in his line of battle. I have directed that, wherever it is practicable, sharpshooters be pushed forward. The firing in Warren's front appears to advance.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Second Corps:*

What are the indications in your front? Are your headquarters the same as yesterday? Please answer at once.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The indications in my front are as follows: I have taken prisoners from Field's and Anderson's divisions. Breckinridge is between

the two, and Wilcox is on the right of Field, near you. I am engaging away at them here to try to prevent them from going to their right. A portion of the enemy (I don't know in what force) is reported as moving to our right. I do not know the meaning of this movement. I have not struck him yet, although I am extending my pickets to the right. We are close up to the enemy's works, and are preparing to make an assault if necessary to relieve Warren. If I attack I hope you will keep a close connection with Gibbon, as the attack will probably be on his right or on his front. My headquarters are at the same place.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—12 m.

General MEADE:

I have just captured some prisoners from Field's division, showing that Field is between Breckinridge and Wilcox. They state that Wilcox is on the right of Field. The pickets on our right report a movement on our right, but the enemy do not come on the road, although we are extending our picket-line in that direction. I think it is only a feint to draw us in that direction, unless they are after our cavalry or a reconnaissance. We are pushing reconnaissances to see what they are about. I will send a lengthy report of General Barlow, whom I have instructed to see what can be done in our front preparatory to attack, if one should be ordered as a relief to Warren.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

The following dispatch, received from General Barlow in reply to instructions to be in readiness to attack, is furnished for the information of the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS—11.40 a. m.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge the dispatch of the major-general commanding, dated 11.30 a. m., touching an assault. We have come upon the enemy's works, whether heavily manned or not we cannot tell. I have strengthened my skirmish line with the intention of pushing still farther and seeing if the enemy are in force in the works. We cannot see very many of them in the main works this morning, but they may be lying down, as we hear the commands "lie down," as a general rule. I do not believe that these assaults upon intrenched [lines] through thick woods, where we do not know the ground, are likely to be successful where the enemy hold their line in force, but we will cheerfully try it if ordered. The enemy were chopping vigorously the whole night.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—My skirmish line will be in motion soon, and I shall have further information.

F. C. B.

Very respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

If we assault, I think General Gibbon should at least make a strong demonstration on our left, besides forwarding at least one brigade in support, as I shall have to leave two brigades to man the works where the artillery is.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—12.50 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: My line continues to press the enemy vigorously, and I am gradually getting the development of his line. I have prisoners from Longstreet and Hill. The enemy are strongly placed wherever met. General Gibbon just reports as follows:

A reliable officer of McKeen's brigade reports a battery of six guns on my right and front, which would take in flank any line advancing to my front, and which would, of course, have to be first taken. * * * The enemy's works are just reported as well filled with men since our sharpshooters have been pushing forward. The ground in my front is well swept by infantry and artillery.

Since this report of General Gibbon's, I learn that his skirmishers have gained possession of a house about 300 yards from the enemy's line. I hear nothing more from my right. Prisoners report that two brigades moved that way.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864. (Received 1.10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following just received from General Barlow:

There is no doubt that the works in front of my skirmish line are fully manned by a line of battle. The division officer of the day has seen them filling the works. I am just going to the line myself. A skirmish line can advance no farther.

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—2.15 p. m.

General HANCOCK,
Second Corps:

GENERAL: Your dispatch is received. I am all ready to attack in conjunction with you in case they make a demonstration upon Warren, and I shall endeavor to keep a close connection with Gibbon in any event. We have been pushing forward our skirmish line this morning until we can go no farther without a general assault. Have received no information of the movement of the enemy in our immediate front this morning, but they still hold their line in strong force. Should Gibbon require any assistance, I shall be glad to give him all in my power.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

General Gibbon has just sent a staff officer to me to report that the enemy have for some time been passing to our right, as seen from his front, stooping to avoid the fire of our sharpshooters. As General Gibbon did not see this in person, I have called upon him for a written statement. How far to the right they are going was not stated. They must have come from General Burnside's front or below.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

General Owen reports that the enemy is still moving to our right, apparently in great haste. It is evidently [his intention] to make an attack or repel an expected one. At the same time the enemy has attacked General Birney's picket-line on the extreme right. I am not well placed for a fight on that side, as I am hugging the enemy close on the other side, and the backs of two of my divisions are in that direction. If I have a serious fight I will have to concentrate all my troops in the center, in order to get my troops together, but I do not like to leave the enemy in force there.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—3.05 p. m.

General MEADE:

I have developed the enemy's line pretty well throughout my front. My line is about north and south, and just in front of the road. The enemy have works all along their front; their right resting on a swamp, where I connect with the cavalry. Their skirmish line is reported to me as rather shaky, having been driven from strong positions without much trouble, the enemy breaking as soon as our line made a rush.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

The present artillery firing here is caused by the enemy attempting to retake the rifle-pits carried by General Birney yesterday across the creek. It is now held only by our skirmish line, as I had to move General Birney's division more to the right. The enemy's attack so far has been feeble. Whether their troops are being massed in Birney's front or on his right I do not know. I have

directed General Gibbon to make an active demonstration, supported by a line of battle, against their troops, to see if they are still there. I have connected with the cavalry along the Hanover road.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

You will make your arrangements and withdraw your corps to-night and move, via Haw's Shop, to the rear of Bethesda Church. Your corps will be massed somewhere in the vicinity of these headquarters, at Via's house. You will begin to withdraw as soon as it is dark. Notify Burnside when the last of your troops move and when you withdraw your pickets.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—8.10 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

What news? Wright has assaulted with some success, taken rifle-pits and many prisoners. We are anxious to hear from you. You must withdraw as soon as possible as we want you to move to the left. The route to take from Haw's Shop will be designated and guides furnished.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

We are withdrawing. All my previous dispatches I suppose have reached you. I sent to you frequently. The enemy made frequent attempts to get possession of the works that Birney took yesterday across the river. He took part of the advanced pit in which our skirmishers were, but I didn't think it worth while to retake it, as it was entirely commanded by our guns and enfiladed by them so that neither side could use it. We had but a few sentinels in it. Their losses were considerable. Gibbon made quite a demonstration of an assault on their works this p. m., but the ground was so swept and flanked by artillery that it was not thought best to order an absolute assault, but our skirmish line was held by a brigade and intrenched against them within 200 steps of them. The withdrawal will take some time, as our line is very complicated and very close to the enemy.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your best route is by Haw's Shop, Via's (headquarters), and Gibson's, to Cold Harbor. Captain Paine will meet your column about Haw's Shop and guide you. You must make every exertion to move promptly and reach Cold Harbor as soon as possible. At that point you will take position to re-enforce Wright on his left, which it is desired to extend to the Chickahominy. Every confidence is felt that your gallant corps of veterans will move with vigor and endure the necessary fatigue. You will pass by my headquarters and I should like to see you as you pass.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864—9.15 p. m.

General MEADE:

Your second dispatch received. All right.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

General Hancock has just left his headquarters for the front.

OPERATOR.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—10.50 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Two divisions of my corps have about passed, and I shall now leave for the headquarters of the army.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I have just left. General Birney's division is just commencing to move. Everything quiet at this moment.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

On reaching Cold Harbor you will take position on the left of the Sixth Corps and at once attack the enemy, endeavoring to turn his right flank and interpose between him and the Chickahominy. If practicable you will detach a force to the Chickahominy and endeavor to secure possession of a crossing-place. General Sheridan was directed to attack in this direction, and will probably be found

near the river; your movements should be in co-operation with his. If upon arrival at Cold Harbor it should, on consultation with Major-General Wright, be deemed more expedient for you to support that officer's attack in lieu of attacking yourself, these instructions are modified so as to authorize this project, but your force should be brought to bear against the enemy as promptly and vigorously as possible. You will keep these headquarters constantly advised of your operations through the telegraph office at General Wright's headquarters.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following return of troops serving in this command at date:

Command.	Present for duty.		
	Officers.	Men.	Aggregate.
Corps headquarters	25	176	201
Engineer Battalion	11	342	353
Artillery Brigade	79	2,885	2,964
First Division	409	7,785	8,194
Second Division	406	7,674	8,080
Third Division	411	8,124	8,535
Total	1,341	26,986	28,327

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864—12.30 a. m.

General Birney, with his division, will return across the creek so as to cover the right flank, taking up the line he held before the advance of yesterday. General Barlow's division will connect with General Birney's in the pits near the Shelton house, and with General Gibbon's division on the left in its advanced position. General Gibbon's division will remain across the creek.

By command of Major-General Hancock:
FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—6.40 p. m.

The following movements are ordered for to-night: The Second Division will withdraw from its position at dark and take the road to Haw's Shop by way of Jones' house and Ninth Corps headquarters. The First Division will withdraw at once by way of the cross-

roads to Haw's Shop, following the same route it took in the advance. The Third Division will hold the Hanover Court-House, Cold Harbor, and Richmond roads until the road to Haw's Shop has been cleared by the other divisions, occupying so much of the breast-works crossing these roads as may be necessary for this purpose. As soon as the roads are cleared the Third Division will follow the First on the road to Haw's Shop. The chief of artillery will assign two batteries to move with each division. The remaining batteries will precede the command at dark. The hospitals will be broken up at once. Such ambulances as are not needed for the wounded will go with the train, except ten to accompany each division. Where the route of the Second Division intersects that of the First, the Second Division will take precedence.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864—9 p. m.

It is supposed that guides will be furnished at Haw's Shop; still, at present, the major-general knows nothing further than the orders already given; still, men have been sent over the route who serve as guides. In case they return in time, commanders will please see that their commands are all off as promptly and as quietly as possible. General Birney is to relieve the pickets, and his headquarters are in the field to the right of the point where his headquarters were the first day.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 142. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

The Fifth New Hampshire Regiment having reported at these headquarters, in pursuance of orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, is assigned to the First Division of the corps, and will be reported accordingly,

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864—9.07 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER:

COLONEL: I am pressing forward the skirmish line at all points, which draws the fire which you may be able to hear at corps headquarters, and which is somewhat heavy for a skirmish fire. Shall have more exact information shortly. Last night my whole skirmish line was close upon the enemy's line of battle, and I infer that the same is the case this morning.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General BARLOW:

GENERAL: A dispatch from General Meade states that it may be necessary for this corps to assault to relieve Warren and Wright, who are expected to be heavily engaged soon. The major-general commanding desires to know what you think of the probability of the success of an assault in your front with so much of your division as is available, supported by one or two brigades of General Gibbon's division, and possibly one of Birney's in case of need. The general desires that you will have the ground examined with a view to this assault, and make such preparations as will enable you to advance speedily should orders be received to attack.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to inclose report* of Colonel Brooke, touching this afternoon's movements. The order required him to support the right of the advance of General Gibbon by conforming his (Brooke's) left. As the right of General Gibbon did not leave his works and advance (as appears by statement of Colonel Brooke) Colonel Brooke did not advance.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 1, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: Yours in regard to the assault is just received. A reliable officer of McKeen's brigade reports a battery of six guns on my right and front, which would take in flank any line advancing to my front, and which would, of course, have to be first taken. As represented to me these guns are directly in front of Brooke's brigade and so placed as to fire along my front. There is also a gun (at least but one has fired) which sweeps down the Cold Harbor road. If it is concluded to attack with my division, I should order McKeen to advance in line obliquely to the right against this battery, to be supported by Smyth, and Owen to advance against the Cold Harbor road, Tyler to be used according to circumstances; but General Burnside should act vigorously at the same time. If Barlow makes the attack I can send him Tyler with 3,000 men, and if no attack is made on me Smyth with 1,500 more can be sent. The enemy's

*Not found.

works are just reported as well filled with men since our sharpshooters have been pushing forward. The ground in my front is well swept by the enemy's artillery and infantry, and I have no artillery in position on the line.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Maj. JOHN M. NORVELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division:

SIR: I have the honor to report that I sent out this morning 60 men under experienced officers with orders to advance as far as practicable, to obtain all information possible of the enemy's position and strength, and so to annoy him as to prevent his leaving our present front. I find that the enemy has concentrated his fire upon my left and left center, doing considerable execution, even in rear of my works, to prevent which I am now constructing traverses. The enemy's sharpshooters are in the open plain in front of his works, covered by sunken rifle-pits. I am not able to annoy him much as I have no sharpshooters and but little cover of any kind in my front. His batteries are in the same position as yesterday and his strength apparently the same.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSHUA T. OWEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
June 1, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. J. M. NORVELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division:

SIR: I have the honor to report that the enemy is still moving to the right, apparently in great haste. It is evidently his intention either to attack the right or to repel one anticipated.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSHUA T. OWEN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 1, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding the corps.

I have had these reports from so many different sources that I am convinced the enemy is moving to our right, and think it would be advisable to make an assault, or at least a strong demonstration of one.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 1, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: I have several reports of the enemy moving to my right, the first one about 12 o'clock to-day, the last, half an hour ago, which I forwarded to you with my indorsement recommending an assault if your information justified it. Of course our information is limited.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Third Division:

GENERAL: General Gibbon reports that the enemy are and have been passing to our right as seen from his front. They may be massing in front of General Barlow or yourself. The major-general commanding directs me to say, therefore, that you had better be very vigilant and use reconnaissances and preparations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I sent out instructions from here to push forward my skirmish line at 7 a. m. I have no reports as yet. I shall move my headquarters out on the road from Linney's to Mechanicsville as far along it as the operations of the day will permit.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 1, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

General Bartlett on my right reports his left as near the enemy's works as he was at Spotsylvania Court-House. He will push his right out. The enemy endeavored to take his pits last evening, but failed.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 1, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

From my present right to Cold Harbor, to connect with General Wright, will be nearly a line of battle 5 miles. If we can get possession of the direct road from Bethesda Church to Cold Harbor, I do not propose to connect with him by more than a skirmish line at first.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 1, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

General Bartlett reports the enemy moving toward the left at double-quick—to the left and right toward the white house and in heavy columns.

CHAS. RICKETTS,
Lieutenant.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded.
General Bartlett is on my right.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 1, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

General Cutler reports his skirmishers in sight of the enemy's main line, and that they were moving men double-quick to the left, but does not know whether it was more than a skirmish line extending. General Lockwood reports wagons moving rapidly to our left. My battery has opened, and the enemy reply with one. My order of battle is: Griffin, Cutler, Lockwood, the latter on the left. My skirmishers have gotten through the wood south of Bethesda Church, and on the opposite of me open field and the enemy's earthworks. The enemy fires from a rifled battery. The movement of the enemy may be to get his train back threatened by our operations on our right flank, and the troops we see may be merely the flank guards. I am pushing a reconnaissance through the woods to my left toward the road General Wright is on.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

The wire is laid to this place (Bethesda Church), but operator not yet up.

G. K. W.

10.30 A. M.

General WARREN:

The rear of the enemy's column passed at 10.15. A wagon train is following it. General Lockwood is getting his men into line. They will advance in about ten minutes.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

BETHESDA, *June* 1, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

We have stopped any apparent movement of the enemy, and our skirmish line everywhere comes up in sight of intrenchments. I have to take some time to get my lines established before advancing

farther, and batteries cannot be taken through the woods until I drive back the enemy's skirmishers, which I will do as soon as we get our new line arranged. My left rests on an impassable swamp, about half a mile southeast of the church. The enemy's intrenchments, so far as I can learn, extend across both roads.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Bethesda Church, June 1, 1864—12 m.

Major-General MEADE:

The enemy fires at us with rifled guns and light 12-pounders on the direct road to Cold Harbor, and we are within canister range. The troops moving to our left we seem to have seen the tail of. When we opened on them they were seen to start on the double-quick and the officers to use their swords to hurry them up. On the right and left of this place are very difficult swamps, and I find it necessary to reconnoiter ahead in order to move my troops in any connected manner. Skirmishing is lively in places. Everybody is at work.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

BETHESDA CHURCH,
June 1, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General MEADE:

I have extended my line now so that it is nearly all taken up as a single line of battle. The enemy is strongly intrenched along my whole front. When my skirmishers first advanced they ran back to their works, but have come out again, and I have sharp skirmishing along the line. The enemy has three batteries in position, and they cross-fire over this spot at an angle greater than 60 degrees. General Crittenden ought to keep up connection with my right. I have not heard from Major Roebling's reconnaissance on my left. I have nothing much to attack with at any one point now, unless I break my line to form a column of assault. I believe that nothing but a strong attack can carry the enemy's position, and I must have a large force on hand to hold on with, which I have not. We have taken 3 prisoners from the skirmish line that advanced against [us]. They are from Longstreet's corps, and say that it was General Breckinridge's troops moving down to our left this morning. The telegraph line does not yet work. I do not hear any firing in the direction of Cold Harbor.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

The prisoners report General Ewell on their left, then Hill, then Longstreet, then Breckinridge, and that there is a good deal of maneuvering about.

JUNE 1, 1864—2.20 p. m.

General MEADE:

I forward dispatch just received from Major Roebling. Enemy still holds the road leading to Woody's house, where Major Roebling is, and his cannon still fire along my front. I gave directions to feel around for Longstreet's right flank some time ago. I shall press up if I find him yielding.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

JUNE 1, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General WARREN:

I am at Woody's house, 2 miles southeast of Bethesda and 1 mile from Cold Harbor. Longstreet was intrenched along that road, and left fifteen minutes ago; he went off in a western direction. I don't think there was quite a division there. Can't find out who commanded the division. Have picked up a few Sixth Corps stragglers. I think from their remarks that the Sixth Corps is at Cold Harbor.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

JUNE 1, 1864—2.45 p. m.

General WARREN:

The Sixth Corps is formed in a semicircle around Cold Harbor; nothing particular in their front. The head of Baldy Smith's column is at the corner leading to Woody's and Bethesda; he says he has orders to go up that road and go between the Fifth and Sixth Corps. I don't think you can expect him before dark.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Generals Wright and Smith will attack this evening. It is very desirable you should join in this attack, unless in your judgment it is impracticable.

GEO. G. MEADE.

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4 P. M.

General WARREN.

Your note of 3 p. m. just received.* I was coming back alone, the Eighth Maryland following some distance behind. We have a prisoner. Title is: Longstreet, McLaws' division, Kershaw's brigade, Second South Carolina. They came from Shady Grove last night, and left just before I got there. I shall turn off to the left at Bosher's house, and try and get across the swamp, which is passable in very few places.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—4.15 p. m.

General MEADE:

Major Roebling sends me word that it was McLaws' division that left the neighborhood of Woody's on the road to Cold Harbor this morning. He took a South Carolina prisoner, who says they left Shady Grove last night. I am trying to feel around the right of the force in my front, but it seems to be slow work. The ground between here and the road from Old Church to Cold Harbor is very bad and swampy, and the enemy have such a chance at our right in my front that it would be improper to attack them as long as there is any hope of avoiding it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Bethesda Church, June 1, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I do not believe General Smith will be up in time to take any part in an attack to-night. I will try and send in a column of a division on my left if Wright and Smith begin, and will demonstrate on my whole front. Major Roebling thought in his note that General Smith could hardly do anything to-night. They will have to move out quite a piece from Cold Harbor to find the enemy's right unless it is thrown back from my front and prolonged toward Gaines' Mill. The enemy remains firm in my front, and his musketry and artillery have a fine range across a clear field, somewhat [like] our last position at Spotsylvania Court-House.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 1, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General WARREN:

I have joined my men on the left of the Fourth Maryland. They are now skirmishing with the enemy. Baldy Smith is forming on the right of the Sixth. Our left is considerably in advance of Baldy's, and there is a gap of at least half a mile.

W. A. ROEBLING,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

JUNE 1, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General MEADE:

There is very heavy firing now with General Wright. I have extended well toward them, and am in communication, though I don't know how matters are going. The firing seems to be near us. Roebling just sends me this dispatch from my left, 6.15 p. m.: "We are now skirmishing with the enemy. Smith is forming on the right of the Sixth. Our left is considerably in advance of Baldy Smith, and there is a gap of at least half a mile." I am skirmishing heavily on my right, and preparing to move forward at the first opportunity.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General,

JUNE 1, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The enemy has attacked my right, and General Griffin has sent to me for two brigades' support. They are on their way to him. I send you this, as it may be important for General Burnside to know.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

What news? Is the road from Bethesda Church to Cold Harbor open? Wright reports pushing the enemy back on his right, but on his left, on the Chickahominy road, he could make no impression. Hancock will be thrown around there to-night. He repulsed an attack this afternoon. Please report.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general is very desirous of hearing from you as to the result of the attack upon you this evening. Do you connect with General Smith? If not, do you know how far apart your left and his right are? Is the road open from Bethesda Church to Woody's?

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

[Indorsement.]

11 P. M.

I have communicated with General Smith through the wood, but have not heard from him since 4 p. m. The road is not open from Bethesda Church to Woody's.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

JUNE 1, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

General Griffin repulsed the attack on him to-night, which was no more than a strong feeler. The Cold Harbor road is not open, and I have been able to make no impression on the enemy. A very large field intervenes just beyond the forks of the road commanded by the enemy's batteries. I directed General Lockwood to extend well to the left with a line of skirmishers, and to prepare his whole division for an attack in conjunction with Wright and Smith. I thinned my line down to the least possible amount to get two brigades in reserve to support him, but in some unaccountable way he took his whole division, without my knowing it, away from the left of the line of battle, and turned up at dark 2 miles in my rear, and

I have not yet got him back. All this time the firing should have guided him at least. He is too incompetent, and too high rank leaves no subordinate place for him. I earnestly beg that he may be at once relieved from duty with this army. Major Roebling has not yet returned.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Wright and Smith will renew the attack to-morrow, so soon as Hancock gets up in supporting distance. Hancock will also attack. I desire you should join in this attack with all your available force, and have directed General Burnside to hold his command ready to re-enforce you if required. I suppose it will be 6 or 7 o'clock before Hancock can get up. If we can strike a concerted and vigorous blow to-morrow, it may most materially affect our position. Ricketts carried Longstreet's rifle-pits this evening, taking over 500 prisoners.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

An order will be sent in the morning relieving Brigadier-General Lockwood from command. You can now make a good division for Crawford.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—11 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you at once relieve Brigadier-General Lockwood from duty with your command, and instruct him to report forthwith for orders at the headquarters of Lieutenant-General Grant.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—11.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatches (three), dated 11 p. m., are received. I shall try to do my best toward obeying the order relating to the attack to-morrow.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—7 a. m.

It is directed that you push your skirmish line along our front against that of the enemy, and make it of sufficient strength to force it back, and ascertain the position of the enemy's line of battle or strong intrenchments.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

(To division commanders.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 130. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

* * * * * * *

6. The following assignment of troops is hereby ordered; commanding officers of regiments will report to the commanding officer of the division to which assigned: Fifth New York Volunteers and Twenty-first Pennsylvania Dismounted Cavalry, to First Division, Brigadier-General Griffin commanding. Fourth Delaware and One hundred and fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, to Fourth Division, Brigadier-General Cutler commanding.

7. The following batteries are hereby assigned to the First Division, and will be subject to the orders of the division commander for their proper disposition in the camp, on the march, and in battle: Phillips' (E), Massachusetts Artillery; Stewart's (B), Fourth U. S. Artillery, and Richardson's (D), First New York Artillery.

8. The Twelfth New York Volunteers and Fourteenth New York State Militia will be consolidated with the Fifth New York Volunteers, and will report to the commanding officer of the Fifth New York Volunteers.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ON THE PICKET-LINE, *June* 1, 1864.

General CUTLER:

I have the honor to report that the picket-line has advanced 400 yards, and is now in sight of a strong line of the enemy's breastworks between 200 and 300 yards in front. The enemy are moving to our left on the double-quick.

Your obedient servant,

GEO. B. OSBORN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Division Inspector.

JUNE 1, 1864—9.12 a. m.

Captain MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Cutler's skirmish line covers a brigade front. It has been doubled and now consists of 360 men, supported by four companies. The line crosses the Mechanicsville road, the left resting in the wood about 20 rods from the road. The line is now advancing.

HIGBEE.

JUNE 1, 1864—10 a. m.

General CUTLER:

I have directed General Griffin to extend his line to the left so as to relieve as much as he can of yours. I then want your command in the neighborhood of Bethesda Church, that is, whatever is not necessary to complete the connection between that point and General Griffin's left. I shall leave Colonel Kitching in reserve.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

My headquarters will be at Bethesda Church.

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I am at Cold Harbor with General Sheridan, and the head of my column is not far behind. As soon as it arrives it will be put in position, relieving the cavalry. From General Sheridan's information it appears there is something more than a division of infantry in his front, and he fears an accession to their force. Unless a general movement is made by the enemy in this direction my position will be secure, so far as I can judge from the knowledge so far obtained. I shall cover the road intersections at Cold Harbor, and refuse my left somewhat, but as I can't connect with Warren, I could wish that Smith, who I understand is to fill the gap, could come up. The roads, which are very sandy and heavy, have worried the troops somewhat, but they were in good shape when I left them an hour ago.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
Camp near Weir's House, June 1, 1864—12 p. m.

Surg. S. A. HOLMAN, U. S. Army,
Medical Director, Sixth Corps:

DOCTOR: I have been informed by an officer of the staff of headquarters of the Eighteenth Army Corps that this command has been engaged this afternoon, and that their wounded are entirely unprovided for. The major-general commanding the army desires me to instruct you to furnish to the wounded of the above-named corps such medical supplies, stores, stimulants, dressings, &c., and other aid from your corps to insure proper care of these wounded. They are without ambulances and battle-field supplies. See that the wounded are collected and properly attended to. Dr. Suckley is the medical director.

THS. A. MCPARLIN,
Surgeon U. S. Army, Medical Director.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The last division of the corps is moving in, and as soon as in position I shall press my skirmish line forward, to develop strength and position of enemy. At present I cover the Bethesda Church road, the Gaines' Mill road, and the road to Dispatch Station, with both right and left refused. When General Smith comes up I will throw forward my right as the basis of his formation. I don't think there is anything of moment in front of my right, though it is the point where the enemy attacked, but on the Gaines' Mill road they seem strong. Your dispatch of 11.45 a. m. just received, and I will attack as soon as I can get my pickets forward.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Major Riddle states that when he left General Wright at 3 p. m., General Smith was with him and General Smith's head of column was up.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

GENERAL: The enemy are reported as massing on their left and in front of my right for an attack early in the morning. This by deserters. It is, therefore, of vital importance that I have all the force I can get, and must ask that you send my two regiments to me as soon as possible. I am authorized by General Meade to call upon you for ammunition. I want 85,000 rounds .57 caliber, 8,000 of Spencer, 2,000 of caliber .54. Can you send it to-night?

Very respectfully,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

SIXTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Everything is going well up to this time. We have gained upon the enemy on the right, and hold our own on the left. We have taken many prisoners. It is reported by them that a large [force] of the rebel army is in our front, and I think that you should send me re-enforcements to-night, if possible. I shall attempt to extend my left to the Chickahominy to-night. The result is not yet decided.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

SIXTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Attack of General Wright's right has succeeded in gaining the enemy's first line of works. The left has been held in abeyance. Several hundred prisoners captured. They belong to Longstreet's and Hoke's commands. I saw and questioned them myself. The fight is going on actively and with no decisive results as yet. Have heard nothing positive as yet from General Smith. Prisoners think the main part of their army to be in this front.

CHAS. E. CADWALADER,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—7.35 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

Hancock will be withdrawn to-night, and will be thrown over to your assistance, if required. I am glad to hear the good news you send, and hope to hear of your continued success. Hancock has repulsed an attack, and Warren is doing very well in his attack. Sheridan was ordered to attack on your left, between Gaines' Mill and the Chickahominy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—8 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Everything is now quiet, but the enemy are fortifying across the direct road between me and the Chickahominy. I shall try to extend my left to the river to-night, but as I have not seen General Smith since the affair of the day was over, I can't speak positively. I will telegraph further as soon as I have seen him, and will give further particulars of the affair to-day. I think Hancock should be here before morning.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—9 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I take pleasure in transmitting the inclosed report received from General Ricketts.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel MCMAHON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Sixth Army Corps:

I have the honor to announce the complete success of my advance of this evening. I have driven the enemy from their works, and

now occupy them. We have taken about 500 prisoners, besides a number of others, which were sent by mistake to General W. F. Smith's headquarters. The prisoners belong to Beauregard's command, and McLaws' division, of Longstreet's corps. My men behaved nobly, and though they have lost heavily are in the best of spirits.

JAMES B. RICKETTS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[JUNE 1, 1864.—For Meade to Wright, complimenting General Ricketts and his command, see Part I, p. 726.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

What is the artillery firing we hear? Have you any communication with Smith, and can you send him orders?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The artillery you hear is part ours, part the enemy's, who is not willing to give up what we have gained, and has attacked several times since dark. Prisoners say that all Longstreet's corps is here, and that the rest of the army is moving down against us in very large force. My position is not secure. General Smith is on the Bethesda Church road, connecting with my right, and I am expecting him here every moment.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

General Hancock had better be advised to get one division of his corps through to Wright before daylight, and the whole corps as soon as possible.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—10.10 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

Where had I better direct Hancock to go? I should think on your left, or would it not be better he should support you in another attack? I do not like extending too much. It is the trouble we have had all along of occupying too long lines and not massing

enough. I should like your views before giving him orders. I think we ought to attack as early as possible in the morning—Smith, yourself, and Hancock; Warren also. If we give them any time they will dig so as to prevent any advance on our part. Whereas a vigorous attack, if successful, may throw them the other side of the Chickahominy, and may secure a crossing for us. Let me have your views as soon as possible.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—10.20 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I think Hancock should come here and take position on my left and partly in my support. With his aid at daylight I think we might succeed in carrying the rest of the enemy's works, or at any rate extending our line to the Chickahominy without scattering too much. I shall be ready to renew the attack as soon as he is in position. He should get here before daylight, or I may lose what I have gained.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—10.45 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

So soon as General Hancock arrives at Cold Harbor, or within supporting distance of you, you will renew the attack on the enemy's position. General Hancock was ordered to withdraw at dark, but as he had his whole corps in line of battle close up to the enemy, and has the same distance to march that you had last night, it is not to be expected that he can reach your position by daylight, though I have no doubt he will be there by 6 or 7 in the morning. He will be directed to take position with part of his forces on your left, and to attack the enemy as promptly as possible. General Smith will also be directed to attack at the same time.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

I send a dispatch* for General Smith, which you will please forward to that officer and acknowledge receipt of this.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—11.25 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Your telegram of 10.45 has been received; also one for General Smith, which has been forwarded to him by one of his staff officers.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

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* See Meade to Smith, 10.50 p. m., p. 468.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 1, 1864—12.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Meade has directed me to hold my present line.* Should I move back I will telegraph you about Owen remaining with his left fixed.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—1 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I am satisfied that the movement of troops on the Mechanicsville road was only the massing of a division for the attack on Willcox's left flank, in case we had made a general attack.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864. (Received 7 a. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE:

In order to open road to our left and to develop the enemy's position, I have had to extend my line from your left, to move upward of 4 miles. It is only a single line, assisted by intrenchments and swamps, but nearly without reserves. I shall be unable to give you any re-enforcements if you are pressed, unless I abandon my line. General Meade directs me to call on you for aid in the event of my being pressed.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—7.20 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Your dispatch received.† We have been feeling the enemy this morning, and find no noticeable change. We are trying to drive his sharpshooters out of a house with our artillery, after which we will try to advance our skirmishers and support them strongly. Our new line is intrenched and is quite strong, and I think we can hold it against a force much superior to our own. General Potter reports noise in enemy's line last night as if artillery and wagons were moving to the rear and left.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

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* See Humphreys to Hancock, 12.15 a. m., p. 434.
† See Williams to Hancock, Burnside, and Warren, 6.45 a. m., p. 434.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Hold your command in readiness to attack in your front. Warren and Wright will undoubtedly be engaged soon, and it may be necessary for you to attack to relieve them.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

Generals CRITTENDEN, POTTER, and WILLCOX:

GENERAL: The above copy of order from General Meade is furnished for your instruction. You will take measures accordingly.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Has any decision been made in regard to my application for the Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers? It originally belonged to my command and re-enlisted as veterans in the Ninth Corps in East Tennessee, and it seems to me proper that they should be returned to this corps.*

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—3.25 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: There is no change in our front. We have pushed our skirmish line forward until it would seem that we can go no farther. Our line is in readiness to attack in case any demonstration is made upon Warren or Wright. What are the indications in that direction? Hancock and myself are in telegraphic communication and can attack simultaneously if the necessity arises.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch of 3.25 p. m. is received. Just heard from Wright. The enemy show no disposition to attack there. Wright was or-

*Answered by General Seth Williams, June 2, that the regiment "has been ordered to report to you as requested."

dered to attack them as soon as he had sufficient of his corps up. As yet we do not hear his attack, neither are there any indications of an attack on Warren. The defensive is Lee's role.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Hancock is directed to withdraw his command to-night. You will accordingly make such disposition of your forces as will best conform to this arrangement and protect your right flank. General Hancock will notify you when the last of his corps moves.

GEO. G. MEADE.
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

We have no telegraphic communication with Hancock, and have not learned what the firing has been. Do you know? Have you been engaged with the enemy? The commanding general desires to know what is going on on the right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Warren reports, dated 7.15 p. m., that the enemy has attacked his right, and General Griffin asks for re-enforcements of two brigades, which he was sending, and suggests that you be advised of it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

Am I to understand that Hancock is to withdraw entirely, leaving me on the right flank of the army, or is he only withdrawing to his old position in rear of his present one?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

In answer to the inquiry contained in your note of this date to Major-General Humphreys, I am instructed to say that the Second Corps is ordered to take up a position to-night in the vicinity of Bethesda Church. Your command will therefore be on the right flank of the army.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Please report progress, and inform me if you have received the notification that Hancock will be withdrawn. Wright has been successful, taking rifle-pits and prisoners.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—9.25 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

We were attacked by a pretty heavy force, but repulsed it. I have just learned that General Gibbon, who is on the extreme left of General Hancock, is withdrawing. I shall withdraw into my old line, which is the only way I can now see of protecting my right at all. I have ordered all my artillery, trains, and hospitals on the south side of the creek.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I have just telegraphed General Humphreys our situation, and the result of the enemy's attack, which was repulsed. Our loss is very small. The attack was not very strong. General Williams answered my dispatch in reference to withdrawal of Hancock, and I have just seen one of his staff officers. I shall make dispositions for the change. Glad of Wright's success.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—9.40 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

You were advised this afternoon, per Captain Bates, aide-de-camp, that Hancock was ordered to withdraw at dark, and you were directed to make the necessary disposition to cover your right flank.

I do not see, therefore, why you should be surprised at the withdrawal of Gibbon, though I must admit Hancock should have withdrawn him last. You can refuse your right flank, but the left must remain in connection with Warren. You should endeavor to get a reserve of movable troops to meet any attempt to turn your right flank. The Totopotomoy ought to be a strong line to rest your flank on.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Birney will send you a message by Captain Miller when the last of his troops are leaving. Two divisions have nearly passed. The wire is now about to close, and I am going to leave for the headquarters of the army.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

You will hold your command in readiness to-morrow either to attack on your front or to move to the support of General Warren, if required.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General CRITTENDEN,
Commanding First Division.

GENERAL: You will cause your main line to be connected on your right with General Willcox's left, and cause your line of skirmishers on your extreme right to be advanced so as to connect with the advance line of skirmishers in front of General Hartranft. You can then, if possible, place in reserve in rear of your line, in connection with General Willcox, either your First or Second Brigade. Please have these movements consummated as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: I have just received your request for a report of the condition of my front. The division officer of the day is just in

from the picket-line, and reports no change except that [it] joins General Willcox's line on the right. I have a staff officer now on the picket-line, and will report immediately on his return.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. L. CRITTENDEN,
Major-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—7 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The enemy seem to be about the same on my front as last night. My line is, I think, very good and strong, and one that I can hold against a very superior force. There was noise in the enemy's lines during the night, as of a movement of wagons or artillery to rear and left. I am about firing a few shots from my rifled battery to get the range and try and get the enemy out of a house from which they annoy me a good deal.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

Skirmishing is tolerably sharp.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The skirmishers in my front have been steadily and persistently pressed against the enemy all day, who are, I think, in a position that no line of skirmishers can dislodge them from. My line is very long, three-fourths of my whole force being on it, the remaining fourth being in reserve supporting my batteries, &c. I have no second line. I believe, from the best information I can obtain and from personal inspection, that my line is fully one-half of that of the whole corps, and equal to one-half of the length of the whole line occupied by the Second Corps. A careful examination of the enemy's position in my front is now being made, and a detailed report of the result will be sent in as soon as ascertained. We know, however, that the enemy are in a strong position and seemingly in considerable force in our front. This continual pressing at this point seems to be a waste of force without any result, and a good many men are being lost. I do not think I can advance my line any without making an assault in force, and in that case I should be properly supported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I am obliged to use my artillery to some extent to relieve my skirmishers.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 9TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, June 1, 1864—10 a. m.

General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The troops of the First Division not moving up on continuance of my line, the line has been taken up by my brigade, so that my left now rests on the Shady Grove road. The skirmish line of the First Division now connects with the left of my main line. I request that the First Division move up and connect its main line with the left of my line, and their skirmish line be advanced on the continuance of mine. I also request that the Second Brigade, Third Division, be moved as support to my line. Our pits and the enemy's are in some places not more than 30 yards apart. The line is a good one.

I am, general, yours, most obediently,

J. F. HARTRANFT,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
June 1, 1864—4.05 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: No particular change so far to-day on my front in the enemy's works. No artillery has opened, and I have sent out scouts to ascertain whether the guns are still in position. Colonel Humphrey reports just now that "a small column of the enemy, perhaps a small brigade, have just passed from Potter's front across toward the left, crossing the farther corner of the field and into the woods beyond." It may be a relief of the picket-line.

Very respectfully, yours,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—8 a. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I am directed to inform you that most of the cavalry on our right has been detached for special service, leaving only a thin line of cavalry pickets in that direction. I am, therefore, instructed to say that you will throw your pickets well out on the road leading in from the right, and dispose your forces on the right of the trains so as to afford the best protection against an attack from that quarter. You will also confer frequently with Captain Peirce, the quartermaster in charge of the trains, so that your forces can be most advantageously disposed for the proper protection of the wagons.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I am directed to inform you that the trains of the army have been ordered to move down the river to a point which has been indicated to Capt. L. H. Peirce, quartermaster in charge.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 252. } *Near Haw's Shop, Va., June* 1, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, will report to and receive orders from Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, commanding Army of the Potomac, until otherwise ordered.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—12 m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: As soon as General Wright opens the road from Old Church to Cold Harbor, you will follow him, and take position on his right, endeavoring to hold the road from Cold Harbor to Bethesda Church. General Wright is ordered to attack the enemy as soon as his troops are up, and I desire you should co-operate with him and join in the attack. The enemy have not long been in position about Cold Harbor, and it is quite important to dislodge, and, if possible, rout him before he can intrench himself.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: All the infantry ammunition I have is upon the persons of my men. Will you please make some arrangement to send me a supply immediately? At 11 o'clock this morning none of my supply train of wagons had arrived. I have only one wagon per regiment, and some brigades have less. I would respectfully ask that a supply train be sent to the White House at once to the quar-

termaster and commissary of this corps for supplies; forage gives out to-night, rations to-morrow night. I have one regiment with Austrian rifles, one with Spencer, and one with Sharps carbines.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

JUNE 1, 1864—7.15 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER EIGHTEENTH CORPS:

I am instructed to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this date in relation to means of transportation for your command. The commanding general directs that you order the chiefs of your principal staff departments to report at once in person to the chiefs of their departments at these headquarters, and some assignment will be made to meet your immediate necessities. I am directed to add, however, that the means of transportation with this army has been reduced to the minimum allowance, and that it is, therefore, of the highest importance that you should hurry forward your own trains as rapidly as possible. In case of necessity you are authorized by the commanding general to call upon the commander of the corps adjacent to your own for ammunition. Headquarters are near Via's house.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
Near Old Church, June 1, 1864—8.10 [a. m.].

Major-General SMITH,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: Captain Farquhar has just met General Wright, and has shown him the order to you to take position on the right of the Sixth Corps at New Castle. General Wright thinks there may be some misapprehension, as he has been ordered to Cold Harbor, and is now on his way there. The head of his column is at this moment passing Old Church.

Very respectfully, &c.,

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 1, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that my line extends from the Woody house across the Bethesda Church road, partially along a rifle-pit occupied by the enemy when I assaulted, the left brigade occupying a line of pits taken from the enemy to-day, making line like a very obtuse V. On the right General Martindale is spread out in one thin line without any reserves. The

center, by General Brooks, has a partial second line, his Third Brigade forming a second line to General Devens, who is on my extreme left. I have already had the honor to report my necessities and requirements for ammunition, and having now given the present condition of my situation, must leave it for the general commanding to determine as to how long I can hold this line if vigorously attacked, one division being almost entirely out of ammunition, and one brigade of General Brooks having but a small supply on hand. Fearful that the note of mine to General Meade may have miscarried, I again state that I have one regiment armed with Austrian rifles, one with Sharps, and one with Spencer carbines. I am entirely without forage. I have not yet been able to ascertain the extent of my loss to day. I have to request that medical stores be sent to my wounded, as I had left before mine had been sent to me.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—10.50 p. m.*

Major-General SMITH:

You will make your disposition to attack to-morrow morning on Major-General Wright's right, and in conjunction with that officer's attack. This attack should be made with your whole force, and as vigorous as possible. You will send orderlies to the telegraph office at General Wright's headquarters and keep me frequently advised of your operations. I have had no report of your operations this afternoon.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
White House, Va., June 1, 1864.

The chief quartermaster, commissary, and ordnance officer of the Eighteenth Army Corps will at once prepare their respective trains in accordance with the within instructions, and report the fact, when they are in readiness, to these headquarters.

By order of Brigadier-General Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

COLD HARBOR, *June* 1, 1864.

General AMES:

The general commanding corps directs that you send our supplies and wagons, ammunition, forage, &c., to us as soon as possible. Send one of your regiments as convoy. Come on with your command as soon as you can leave, as before directed. Orderly will stay and show wagons the road.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*So recorded in Meade's letters-sent book. It is 10.05 p. m., as quoted by Smith, Part I, p. 1001.

NEW CASTLE FERRY, *June* 1, 1864.

General AMES:

GENERAL: The general commanding corps directs that until further orders nothing be allowed to join us by the road on the south side of the Pamunkey. You will remain in your present position at the White House till further orders. All messengers will communicate with us by the road on the north side of the Pamunkey. Colonel Gregg's cavalry has been ordered away to join General Sheridan, so you will use the squadron of cavalry you have to picket the roads. You will need to keep a sharp watch. One division of cavalry is at Cold Harbor. Two verbal messages to the above effect have already been sent.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION,
June 1, 1864—6.25 p. m.

Major-General SMITH:

With assistance on our right and left we can hold the woods and rifle-pits. Our center is firm.

W. B. BARTON,
Colonel Forty-eighth New York, Comdg. Brigade.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—1 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I am in receipt of your dispatch* to hold on to Cold Harbor, and will do so if possible. I have ordered General Davies' brigade to Cold Harbor. It is not a full brigade, as some of it is at Bethesda Church. I have been very much weakened by the brigade sent to White House.

Clingman's brigade was routed with Fitzhugh Lee's cavalry yesterday, and 61 of his men captured instead of 15, as heretofore reported. Butler's brigade of South Carolinians was with Fitz. Lee's division, and is well represented in prisoners. The fight on the day before yesterday was with Hampton's division and Butler's brigade. Hampton's division was relieved early yesterday morning by Fitz. Lee, who came from Atlee's Station.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 1, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: In obedience to your instructions I am holding Cold Harbor. I have captured this morning more prisoners; they be-

* Not found.

long to three different infantry brigades. The enemy assaulted the right of my lines this morning, but were handsomely repulsed. I have been very apprehensive, but General Wright is now coming up. I built slight works for my men. The enemy came up to them and were driven back. General Wright has just arrived.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—9.46 a. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: The accompanying dispatch from General Hancock is communicated to you for your information. The commanding general desires that you send the purport of it to General Wilson. It may be that the enemy knowing that General Wright has been withdrawn will endeavor to interpose infantry between General Hancock and General Wilson. General Wilson was informed last night of the withdrawal of General Wright.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Prospect Church, Va., June 1, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Most of my command were in camp at the time I received Major-General Meade's note, directing me to make a reconnaissance to Sumner's (upper) Bridge, &c. The camps were at Parsley's Mill, Prospect Church (a small church north of Cold Harbor), and one brigade north of that point, so that it was impossible to get the command together to make the reconnaissance before dark. My men and horses are worn out. The men have been in the saddle since 4 o'clock yesterday morning, and the horses without water for the same period. I will make the reconnaissance early to-morrow morning. I have great difficulty in finding water where I am.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp at Prospect Church, June 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I would respectfully suggest to the major-general commanding to send to the White House all the dismounted cavalry with the trains. I learn that with the exception of Major Beaumont's command all are in a very disorganized condition, and give no protection to the

trains whatever. Also many dismounted cavalry from Burnside's corps have, I am told, joined the trains. Horses are now being received at the White House, and if these men are encamped there measures can be taken to mount and equip them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

The major-general directs that you make a reconnaissance to-morrow morning with your whole division down the road that you are now on to Sumner's (upper) Bridge. You will be supported by the First Cavalry Division, which will be moved to the church near General Davies' headquarters and farther, if necessary. The general directs that you make your advance cautiously and with care. In case you come in contact with infantry you will not engage it heavily, but ascertain, if possible, its position, strength, &c.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES,
Comdg. First Brigade, Second Div., Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: You will at once report your brigade to General Torbert, commanding First Division, who has received instructions from Major-General Sheridan as to the disposition of your brigade. The First New Jersey Cavalry will be ordered to report at daylight in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR HAW'S SHOP, *June* 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding U. S. Forces, White House, Va.:

Capt. G. H. Mendell, of the Engineers, reports to you for the purpose of laying out proper fortifications for the protection of our depot at the White House. A dash upon our supplies there is possible at any time. The temptation to such a dash will be very great. You will, therefore, please use every man within your command who can be spared from other duties upon such works as Captain Mendell, with your approval, may lay out. Stragglers who go to the rear may also be worked upon the fortifications under guard, until such time as it may be convenient to return them to their commands. The importance of the work to be done at White House is

such that I hope it will secure your immediate attention. General Meade will be sending back forty pieces of artillery, to be shipped to Washington. Such of them as you may deem it advisable to retain for your fortifications you are authorized to retain.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SAINT MARY'S DISTRICT,
Point Lookout, Md., June 1, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fort Monroe, Va.:

MAJOR: My bearer of dispatches reports to me that the major-general commanding has the impression that I have already received authority to make raids whenever I may deem it expedient and safe. No such general authority has been received here. On the 11th ultimo I received permission by telegraph to assist the navy in an expedition to destroy torpedoes. We have now 12,000 prisoners, and the guard has been re-enforced by a regiment of infantry numbering 700, while the Fifth New Hampshire, numbering 600, has been replaced by the Veteran Reserves, numbering 800. We are greatly in need of horses for the quartermaster's department, and of farming implements for our contraband settlements on the Patuxent. Our last raid was for a special purpose, which was accomplished, and the capture of horses and cattle was incidental. This time I purpose to take ample transportation, and to attend solely to procuring the needed supplies. I ask only for the requisite authority to go. I will answer for the success of the expedition, and for the security of the prisoners of this post. I respectfully ask that I may be authorized to make these raids whenever it shall appear to be expedient.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel, Commanding District.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Fort Monroe, Va., June 1, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Bermuda Hundred:

I am here with nearly 1,500 feet of pontoon bridging, and a siege train, tools, &c., by order of General Meade, to await here further orders. Last evening an order of General Halleck to commanding officer here directed all pontoon bridging to be sent to you, and I am now sending these pontoon rafts with nearly 200 men, enough to lay the bridge, to reach you, I trust, during the night. I am myself uncertain by my orders whether it is wished that I should go up with the balance of my men here—say 300—and my animals, wagons for tools, and the siege material now in barges. Will you please reply to me as early as practicable as to what you know to be intended, or what you desire, or deem expedient, in regard to this material, trains, and men?

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Engineer Brigade.

FORT MONROE, *June* 1, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

Your dispatch received, and the boats we have shall be sent at once and the others as they come in. But few are here. I have ordered them on Bermuda Hundred as they returned from White House. We have three coaling.

H. BIGGS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

GILLMORE'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 1, 1864.

General BUTLER:

General Terry's pickets on the right, Ames' old front, have been driven back from their advanced rifle-pits. The enemy pierced the line in several places. They still hold the woods. I have ordered re-enforcements and intrenching tools out.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

The commanding general directs that you immediately cause a thorough inspection of your camps to be made, and have every sand-bag, illegally used by soldiers, to be turned in at your engineer depot.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General, &c.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 1, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General Gillmore will please telegraph me a full report of the cause of the artillery fire last night; by whose orders it was done, and the casualties therefrom; the number of guns used by the enemy, and the details of what should have been a most serious engagement to have justified the expenditure of ammunition.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

About 2.30 last night the enemy opened with light artillery along their entire line on Terry's front. We replied from Battery No. 3. There was no picket-firing. We had 2 men wounded. The gun-boats fired some shots, but not many.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 1, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

The commanding general directs that all men available for detail, not otherwise employed, be put on the new line between Batteries 3 and 6. That the men of the 20-pounder battery build their own epaulements at the position they were instructed to occupy.

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

JUNE 1, 1864.

Major Graef will carry out this order on the new line referred to, calling on General Kautz for such details as he may require. General Terry will direct the commander of the 20-pounder battery to construct epaulements for his guns, as directed, the object being to aid the navy in any attack upon them by the enemy's gun-boats. Both works to be pushed vigorously.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 7. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., June* 1, 1864.

1. Col. H. L. Abbot, First Connecticut Artillery (captain U. S. Corps of Engineers), is hereby announced as acting chief engineer of the line of intrenchments, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

2. First Lieut. J. M. Barnard, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, is hereby announced as acting aide-de-camp to the major-general commanding.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Curtis', Va., June* 1, 1864.

Capt. Loomis L. Langdon, First U. S. Artillery, having been relieved from duty, Capt. Alfred P. Rockwell, First Connecticut Light Battery, is announced as chief of artillery, staff of the brigadier-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 34. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., June* 1, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Company E, Third New York, and Company M, Third Pennsylvania Artillery, are hereby assigned to the command of Brigadier-General Terry, and will report to him direct.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Curtis', Va., June 1, 1864.

Lieut. L. H. MOWERS,
Comdg. Company E, Third New York Artillery:

In accordance with instructions from corps headquarters, the position of the 20-pounder battery will be changed under the direction of Colonel Abbot. You will, therefore, cause the work on the epaulements to be stopped.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS HINKS' DIVISION,
City Point, Va., June 1, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

MAJOR: I send for the information of the major-general commanding 1 colored refugee, who left Petersburg yesterday, and 2 contrabands, who left Fort Clifton yesterday evening, who represent that there are but few troops in Petersburg, nearly all having been withdrawn for the defense of Richmond. I respectfully suggest to the general whether it would not be well to withdraw General Wild's troops from Wilson's Wharf as soon as that position is covered by the movements of General Grant, letting the gun-boats hold the left bank of the river. This disposition, and the return of Duncan's brigade, will give us about 3,600 men of this division, which could be used for immediate operations against Petersburg. It seems to me to be entirely practicable to surprise and enter the place with about 6,000 men. I respectfully request that the refugee and contrabands be returned to this post.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. W. HINKS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

JUNE 1, 1864. (Received 3.30 p. m.)

General HINKS:

Captain Dollard has returned. The enemy's vedettes are back at their former post. The right of their line yesterday was at Cox's. There was a brigade of cavalry, a small brigade of infantry—I should judge a regiment of infantry—a battery and howitzers with the cavalry. At 11 a. m. they had a lieutenant killed, a major wounded, and 20 enlisted men killed and wounded. Citizens report them to have said that Butler had sent a corps to Grant and was withdrawing the rest; hence the attack here. They also said that Lee was within 8 miles of Richmond.

AMES,
Colonel.

JUNE 1, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Colonel AMES:

Is the slashing done between you and Fort Wisconsin to uncover your flank? If not, why not?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 1, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FULLER,
Chief Quartermaster, Bermuda Hundred, Va.:

You will send up a barge to the Spring Hill wharf, to be there at 6 a. m. to-morrow, capable of taking the two 30-pounder Parrott guns across the Appomattox.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FARRAR'S ISLAND, JAMES RIVER,
June 1, 1864—4.30 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 5.30 p. m. 2d. Received 7.20 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

The concurrent testimony, which seems reliable, of deserters from the rebel army and navy, and contrabands from Richmond, is that the enemy meditate an immediate attack upon this fleet with fire-rafts, torpedo vessels, gun-boats, and iron-clads, all of which carry torpedoes, and that they are confident of being able to destroy the vessels here, principally by their torpedoes. I have not here, and am unable to fit torpedoes which are at all reliable, and would urge the Department to forward me with all dispatch torpedo barges and torpedoes, the latter with percussion fuses similar to those found on the Atlantic. In view of the novel attack contemplated I should regard it as imprudent to send the Tecumseh to sea now, and would request that one or more iron-clads be added to my force here, considering the importance of this river to the armies of Generals Grant and Butler.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

CURTIS' HOUSE, *June* 1, 1864—6.15 p. m.

General BUTLER:

Please order stone ballast now at Bermuda wharf put in those vessels which I sent Captain Barnes there for this p. m.

S. P. LEE.
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 1, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FULLER,
Chief Quartermaster, Bermuda Hundred, Va.:

Please send the bark Franklin and the five schooners, which were brought here for the purpose of being sunk as obstructions, to Admiral Lee, giving them a tow with your tugs.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BERMUDA, *June* 1, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

One brig and four schooners had gone to Admiral Lee before your dispatch was received. Captain Barnes has been here, and has returned to the admiral's ship. Nothing further, therefore, can be done.

FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

JUNE 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Admiral S. P. LEE:

Your envelope inclosing letter to French consul in Richmond, and request for the bark and schooners for obstructions, is received. Orders have gone out to Chief Quartermaster Fuller to send them up at once with a tow.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *June* 2, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

The telegraph line from Gloucester to West Point, north of York River, has been cut, probably by the country people. I think General Smith should be directed to send a small cavalry picket along the line for its protection.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BETHESDA CHURCH, VA., *June* 2, 1864—7 a. m.
(Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Yesterday afternoon an attack was ordered to be made on our left at Cold Harbor by the Sixth Corps and the troops under W. F. Smith, Warren, Burnside, and Hancock being held in readiness to advance in their respective fronts. The attack was made with spirit about 5 p. m., continuing until after dark, resulting in our carrying the enemy's works on the right of the Sixth Corps, where we still hold them, and also the first line in front of Smith. The latter, however, is commanded by another line in rear, which made those carried untenable. The enemy made repeated assaults on each of the corps not engaged in the main assault, but were repulsed with loss in every instance. Several hundred prisoners were taken, but I cannot now say what number nor estimate ours or the enemy's casualties. During the night the enemy made several assaults to regain what they had lost, but failed.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *June* 2, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

Yours of 7 a. m. just received. I have nearly exhausted all my resources of volunteers to re-enforce you; but, if you can use them to advantage, I can send you six or eight good regiments of 100-days' militia. Many of them are anxious to go. Shall I send them?

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
June 2, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In view of the want of preparation for an attack this evening, and the heat and want of energy among the men from moving during the night last night, I think it advisable to postpone assault until early to-morrow morning. All changes of position already ordered should be completed to-day and a good night's rest given the men preparatory to an assault at, say, 4.30 in the morning.

Very respectfully,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—10.25 [p. m.].

[General GRANT:]

GENERAL: I send Major Roebling, of Warren's staff, who will explain the position of affairs on the right when he left. It would appear from Major Roebling's statement that the enemy at dark were in force in front both of Burnside and Warren. I do not believe they will remain in front of Burnside. I have, however, sent orders both to Warren and Burnside that they must, at all hazards, attack the enemy to-morrow at 4.30 a. m., and if he is not in force in their front they must swing round to the left and follow up and attack on Smith's right flank. In like manner, should the enemy be in great force in their front and check them, then our attacks here ought to prevail, and we will swing by the right and move up on Warren's left. In order to insure energy and harmony of action, I propose to place, with your approval, Burnside under Warren's orders.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

BETHESDA CHURCH, VA., *June* 2, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

From Major Roebling's account, Ewell's corps has put itself in a position where it should be badly used up, if it remains until morn-

ing. What you direct is right, though I do not know whether it would be right to place Burnside under Warren, the latter being junior, but I would direct him to advise with Warren, and to act in concert with him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—2.30 p. m.

The attack ordered for 5 p. m. this day is postponed to 4.30 a. m. to-morrow. Corps commanders will employ the interim in making examination of the ground in their fronts, and perfecting their arrangements for the assault.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—7.45 a. m.

General WARREN:

The commanding general directs that you will at once have all your ammunition wagons brought as near as practicable to your troops.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Hancock, Wright, Burnside, and Smith.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 150. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864.

1. The wounded now with this army, and such severe cases of sickness as the corps medical directors may indicate, will be sent to the White House under the general direction of the chief quartermaster and medical director of the army.

As far as practicable, empty wagons will be used for this purpose and the trains from the several corps will rendezvous at Anderson's on the road from the supply trains to the White House.

The wounded will be supplied by their corps commanders with the necessary medical attendants, medical supplies, and one day's rations.

All empty wagons not required for the conveyance of the wounded will be sent at the same time to the White House for supplies, accompanied by such officers as may be necessary to draw supplies required for this army.

The commander of the Second Corps will furnish a small escort for the trains, and the commander of the escort will report early to-morrow to the chief officer of the quartermaster's department at the general supply train at Anderson's.

2. The re-enforcements that have joined this army under the command of Col. L. P. Cesnola, Sixth New York Cavalry, are assigned to duty temporarily with the cavalry division commanded by Brigadier-General Wilson.

When General Wilson's command returns within the lines of the army, Colonel Cesnola will report at these headquarters for further instructions.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
Camp near Cold Harbor, June 2, 1864—7 p. m.

The major-general commanding has ordered that the wounded now with this army, and such severe cases of sickness as you may indicate, be sent to the White House. As far as practicable empty wagons will be used for this purpose. Ascertain from the quartermaster of your corps how many of these he will place at your disposal, and inform me of the number beyond what you need available for the wounded for other corps. The trains of the several corps will rendezvous at Anderson's on the road from the supply train to the White House. An escort will report early to-morrow to the chief officer quartermaster's department at the general supply train at Anderson's.

You will see that proper number of medical officers, attendants, subsistence for one day, and medical supplies, especially stimulants, anodynes, dressings, and ample supply of water be furnished.

So far as possible, ambulances should not be sent beyond Anderson's, except as needed for the severe cases; the lighter cases will be transferred to any empty army wagons that may be found at Anderson's going down empty, and, of course, such wagons should be prepared for the reception of the wounded. Spring wagons can be sent to White House, but ambulances are especially needed and suited for the front.

Place a suitable medical officer in general charge of the wounded of your corps, and direct him to see that they are carried as safe and comfortable as possible, and report on his arrival at White House to Surg. E. B. Dalton, U. S. Volunteers, chief medical officer, Army of the Potomac, at that point. The train must be organized by to-morrow morning early.

Acknowledge receipt.

THS. A. McPARLIN,
Surgeon U. S. Army, Medical Director.

(To medical directors Second, Fifth, Sixth, Ninth, and Eighteenth Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—7.20 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The condition of General Smith's command is such that your instructions of last night are so far modified as to require you to leave a division in the vicinity of Cold Harbor to aid General Smith, in case he should require it, and until he is supplied with ammunition. I am now on my way to Sixth Corps headquarters.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The First Division of my corps arrived here at 6 o'clock, and is now forming in rear of General Wright's left. It will be some time before the corps is up and in position, having been considerably opened out during the night. On consultation with General Wright I think I shall form on his left. He thinks that two divisions would reach to the high ground, virtually controlling the ground between it and the Chickahominy. I shall admit no unnecessary delay, but it will be several hours before my command is ready to attack. I have about twelve regiments on picket, who did not leave till 2 this morning, and there was a good deal of straggling, owing to extreme fatigue of the men and the dusty roads.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 2, 1864—8.20 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

On inquiry I find that all my ammunition wagons are with my troops and fast coming up.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS.
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

Your second dispatch, relative to ammunition, received. I do not understand precisely what is meant, but all my ammunition wagons are with my troops; none with my supply train.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, or
General SMITH:

The left of my line crosses the road leading from Bethesda Church to Cold Harbor, about four-fifths of a mile west of Woody's house; it then bears west. My right connects with General Burnside on the Shady Grove road, and then faces south. I am extended out in a single line of battle, with no reserves.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Humphreys.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I inclose you dispatch* from General Sheridan. The position of the enemy's right that he refers to is along the mill-pond and stream that empties into Chickahominy at or near Sumner's (upper) Bridge. General Sheridan is ordered to leave sufficient force to picket strongly from the left of our army down to the Chickahominy, and to picket the crossings of the Chickahominy. The remainder of his force he is directed to move to some point convenient for grazing and drawing supplies.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that the attack ordered for this morning shall take place at 5 o'clock this afternoon. Such examinations and arrangements as are necessary will be made immediately.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Wright and Smith.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—1.30 p. m. (Received 2 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Birney's division is now at your disposal.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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*See Sheridan to Humphreys, June 2, p. 510.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—4 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: My headquarters are where they were to-day when General Meade was here. I should like to have the telegraph extended here.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Who had the fight to-day toward the right, and what was the result?

HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—8.30 p. m. (Received 8.45 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

When General Burnside fell back the enemy followed closely and occupied the ground in the vicinity of the Via house. There was a lively skirmish, but the results are not known, as the telegraph was cut by the enemy.

S. F. BARSTOW.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

General Breckinridge appears to occupy the right of the enemy's line. We have taken prisoners from him this evening.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 2, 1864—2.30 p. m.

No attack will be made to-night under the orders previously issued. Unless the enemy attack us, the time will be devoted to rest. Meanwhile commanders should have their lines in a defensible condition and sufficiently closed to the enemy. Division commanders will examine the ground well and have the proper points of attack selected. It is very probable that an assault will be ordered at the earliest hour to-morrow. This will be regarded as confidential among the division commanders.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 2, 1864—8.30 p. m.

The divisions of Generals Barlow and Gibbon will attack the enemy, at such points on the front of the respective divisions as the commanders may select, at 4.30 to-morrow morning (June 3). The division of General Birney will be in readiness to move promptly to the support of either the First or Second Division. Headquarters of the corps will be near Birney's division during the assault.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

It is understood that the other army corps are to attack at same time.

C. H. M.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS.
June 2, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER:

COLONEL: I have continued General Gibbon's line to the left of the road by Brooke's brigade, and am putting in Miles on his left; swing forward my left to find the enemy's works, and rest my left on the right bank of the Chickahominy, if possible. I have made no developments of importance as yet.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. F. C. BARLOW,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 12.15 p. m. received. The major-general commanding instructs me to say that it is not expected that you can reach the Chickahominy. If you should do so, however, it is very well, but it is arranged that the cavalry shall assist in picketing the left. The major-general commanding orders that you will look well to your left, as it is the critical point. Colonel Morgan has been sent out to show you the position.

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 2, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I have formed my two largest brigades in line of battle, on the left of the road, and have swung forward the left so as to form much less than a right angle with the road. The enemy's line of skirmishers is very strong.

Their position is on a crest nearly parallel with the road and on the right of the road, and higher and more commanding than ours. They command our position with artillery, while we have no good positions for guns, and they have been throwing canister over our lines. According to the report of the skirmish line and of reliable officers, the enemy have their usual line of works and a line of battle. One battle-flag is plainly visible. They have certainly two, and possibly more, guns. I have pressed my skirmish line as far forward as a skirmish line can well advance. I do not reach the Chickahominy, and according to the best information I am about 1 mile from it. The division of cavalry on my left has been withdrawn and one regiment left, which extends my pickets to the Chickahominy. I have two lines of battle, and shall fortify the first line. I cannot move my line of battle farther forward. Another division on my left might be able to swing farther around. My left is retired and I feel secure against attack.

Respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, as showing the condition of General Barlow's position on the extreme left.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 2, 1864—7.50 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER:

COLONEL: Prisoners captured this evening report that two brigades of Breckinridge's division (one of them Echols' brigade) occupy the crest in front of my line. Colonel Miles' skirmishers drove the enemy from their skirmish line about two hours ago, but were driven back by the enemy's artillery and by the fire of their line of battle. The enemy's skirmish line is quite active, and at times presses ours. We have no ground in our front practicable for artillery but [what] is commanded by the enemy's guns. We have come upon the enemy's line of battle, and it is quite close to our front. I do not think that the cavalry on our left are any protection, and we must rely on ourselves.

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 2, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: There is only one point on my line where I think there is any hope of a successful assault. This is in front of Colonel Smyth, where I have two guns in position and am preparing to put

two more. The enemy's position is a strong one and I do not advise a second assault, but am willing to try again if Colonel Smyth can be re-enforced with another good brigade; even then I do not consider the chances of success very good.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 2, 1864—2 p. m.

General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that at about 3 o'clock you will have orders to move your division up behind the line of Barlow and Gibbon and between the two, as a reserve to an attack to be made at 5 o'clock.

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 2, 1864—3.10 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your command to take position in a ravine behind Gibbon and Barlow and between the two. The exact position will be indicated shortly by a staff officer from these headquarters.

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—5 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Major Roebling has returned. We have got General Lockwood into position on the road to Cold Harbor and across it about 2 miles from this place, where the road branches off to go to Walnut Grove Church. The enemy command it with musketry and artillery, but we have got another road through the woods, so that we can pass directly on to Cold Harbor. The left of my line cannot be more than a mile from Gaines' Mill and quite takes in flank that part opposite the center. A swampy stream running into the Matadequin heads near my left, and is so bad Major Roebling could not get through the night his orderly's horse was drowned. The road which branches off on my rear and comes in again at Woody's is believed also to be good and now open. The line I now hold is nearly 5 miles long, and enables you to move anything securely behind it. With our intrenchments and artillery I believe we can

hold against any probable efforts of the enemy, but it is too weak to attack from the connection, and is not very secure on my right, and is not yet established with General Smith on my left, but I cannot extend farther without risking being broken.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

FIFTH CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
June 2, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

There is no change in enemy's position. Their sharpshooters stationed in pits that they dug last night annoy our line very much.

Very respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—7 a. m.

General WARREN:

General W. F. Smith, commanding Eighteenth Corps, has been authorized to call upon you for a supply of ammunition in case of necessity, his trains having not yet arrived.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAMP, *June* 2, 1864.

Capt. D. L. SMITH,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Fifth Corps:

The Eighteenth Army Corps joins this army and is without supplies. The major-general commanding directs that temporary relief be given them. To effect this you are hereby ordered to supply, for the use of this corps from your train, some 18,000 rations—hard bread, coffee, sugar, salt, and beef on hoof; the cattle to await the call on you. General Ingalls is to send a train of forage, and the wagons of supplies will accompany it on your designating them. Send a commissary with them to General Smith's, and order him to take the wagons to White House as soon as emptied, and fill up.

THOMAS WILSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Commissary of Subsistence.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—7 a. m.

General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Burnside is ordered to withdraw as soon as he can do so securely and mass in rear of your right, and be prepared to resist an attempt of the enemy to attack or turn it, and also to support you in any part

of the line you are holding. The commanding general directs me to say that the defense of the right is intrusted to General Burnside and yourself, and that there should be mutual co-operation.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—Headquarters are moving to the rear of Cold Harbor.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

I have Richmond Examiner of yesterday. If you wish I will send it to you.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 2, 1864—8.20 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The enemy have fallen back in front of the left of my line, which is about 1 mile west of Woody's. Two of their batteries there have been withdrawn and their troops moving southerly. We took a few prisoners there from Field's division.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that Smith's right does not extend beyond Woody's house, and directs that you close up the interval and also shorten your line by contracting your right. Your front should be such that one-half your force may be available for contingencies. You will notify General Burnside of this and act simultaneously with him. He will receive orders to move so as to keep massed in the rear of your right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—Send the Richmond Examiner.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that a dispatch just received from General Burnside indicates that he does not

apprehend his instructions to withdraw and mass in rear of your right. His instructions have been reiterated. The major-general commanding directs that you communicate with General Burnside, and be certain that the movements of the two corps are in concert.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—[9.40 a. m.]

General HUMPHREYS:

The left of my line is now 1 mile in advance of Woody's, westward. Where is General Smith's right; in what direction and how far from Cold Harbor?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch received. General Smith's right is at Woody's.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Smith will have no trouble in advancing his right, I think, 1 mile west, which would of itself close the gap if he faces west. I am making arrangements with General Burnside to effect the movements ordered.

G. K. WARREN.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 2, 1864.

General WARREN:

I am making arrangements as rapidly as possible to move. Will you be kind enough to remain at your present headquarters until I arrive there?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Dispatch received. I will remain as requested.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

An officer in charge of pickets near the Mechanicsville road reports the enemy moving off in force to our left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you order the Twenty-ninth Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers to report at once to Major-General Burnside, commanding Ninth Corps, to which corps it appears that this regiment formerly belonged.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding wishes to know what progress you have made in the changes of position ordered this morning, and at what time you will be posted as directed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—2 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch just received. I am waiting the movement of General Burnside's troops, who will soon take up the new position for his right. I shall then have but to move down by the flank to have my arrangements complete. General Burnside reports that as soon as his right was withdrawn a brigade of the enemy passed down the north side of the Totopotomoy. We have no cavalry there.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 2, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Burnside tells me he has no connection with any cavalry pickets on his right, and knows nothing about them.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I am instructed to inform you that the attack by Generals Hancock, Wright, and Smith, ordered for this morning, will take place at 5 o'clock this afternoon. The commanding general directs that General Warren co-operate by attacking in his front, and that his available force and the corps of Major-General Burnside be held ready to co-operate in such a manner as may be required.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Burnside.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Does the commanding general wish me to hold our right and front with General Burnside's corps massed behind my right, or for General Burnside to hold the right?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—4.20 p. m. (Received 4.25 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch received. The major-general commanding wishes you to hold the right, and Major-General Burnside to be massed in rear of your right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

JUNE 2, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy have followed up General Burnside quite fast, and their skirmishers have got around to the Via house and cut the telegraph line. We are having now quite a brisk fight. General Burnside's whole corps is now massed near Bethesda Church, and I had begun to retire my right when the attack began. We are all making dispositions for defense. Reports indicate the enemy are moving a force from the south around to our right. I think your instructions to me about taking up position for attack were conflicting. For me to close in to General Smith's right, keep half my troops in reserve, and let Burnside mass on my right would bring him to Cold Harbor and have retired my line from the enemy. I think we will have no trouble to hold on here, but I think we should not leave without restoring our control of the Via house, I think, and getting back our telegraph wire. This movement of the enemy stops our march for the present.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 2, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I am on your immediate left, and am directed by Major-General Smith to inquire if he can aid you, and, if so, how?

J. H. MARTINDALE,
Commanding Division.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

From putting all my information together, I believe the enemy's line turns back toward the south, just south of this place, so as to occupy the west side of the course of Gaines' Mill creek. The Second Corps, when it comes in between General Smith and me, will, as it advances, shorten my line considerably. The swamps enable me to take up my present extended position, but my advance would be over open ground.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 2, 1864—6 p. m.

General MEADE:

We have taken prisoners from Johnson's division, of Ewell, who say their whole division advanced. General Burnside, who is on my right along the road to Linney's, is making dispositions, I believe, to attack a force reported to be moving toward Linney's along the Shady Grove road. I think it will be easy to stop any movement of that kind, if it is made. In regard to the contemplated attack to-morrow morning I would like to have some little further consultation, but the wire was cut just as we received a dispatch for Burnside to retire behind my right. I think we will find bad swamps and a large pond in our way moving west from Woody's house, and moving from my present position south the enemy's intrenchments and clear fields in their front.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—The enemy have got a battery on the Shady Grove road now.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatches of 4.30 and 6 p. m. are received. The major-general commanding directs me to say that it is necessary that you should connect with General Smith in the best manner that the ground admits of. It is not perceived that your instructions to connect with General Smith at Woody's and to shorten your front takes your right flank, as formed by these instructions, away from the enemy, or that Burnside's corps will be brought to Cold Harbor by

forming in rear of your right, to meet an attempt to turn your flank. It was supposed this would bring your right near to Bethesda Church. It was expected that General Burnside would attack the enemy upon his making his appearance near the Via house, for the enemy's presence there is an attempt to turn your flank, which he (General Burnside) was placed on your flank to meet. General Smith will be directed to extend a regiment or two on the road from Woody's to Bethesda Church to meet your extension. The major-general commanding expects you to attack in the morning at the hour appointed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

JUNE 2, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

I think General Burnside did not succeed in driving the enemy off the Shady Grove road. I remained in position this afternoon and covered their withdrawal but got pretty badly handled myself in consequence. General Burnside, at my suggestion, had gone into position to cover my withdrawal, but the attack of the enemy came on too soon. General Burnside sent out Potter on the right to outflank them on their way toward Linney's, but he accomplished nothing, and his troops holding them in front did nothing either. I suppose the enemy will hardly stay where he is till morning. I hardly know what you would like to have us do under the circumstances. The enemy now have the breast-works we built when we had our fight night before last and we hold their position.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 2, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

I sent Major Roebling to explain our position here at dark. My orders during the day required me to connect with General Smith; that extended my left one division front to reach Woody's, where you said his right was, and I had to take my right division away to do it. The enemy followed up and attacked it as I did so. My orders directed me to have half my forces in hand for contingencies; that required me to withdraw another division and a half, but I was not allowed by the enemy to do it. Had these things been done my right would have been thrown so far away from where it now is that General Burnside, to mass in rear of it, would have had to come down to Cold Harbor to get out of the swamp. Your very last dispatch before the wire was cut was explicitly that I should hold the front and right, and let Burnside be free to be used anywhere. I will do the best I can when morning comes. If the enemy is where he was this evening I shall have to fight him here, for I cannot well withdraw to another position. If he has retired I will close in at once with General Smith. My connection with him now is quite complete.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch, by Major Roebling, has been received. Major Roebling has explained the conditions existing on the right. Your connection by skirmish line with General Smith, together with the two regiments sent by General Smith, appear to be sufficient to cover communication by the road from Woody's to Bethesda Church, a connection considered sufficient for the present by the major-general commanding.

The commanding general directs me to say that it does not appear probable that the force confronting Burnside will be found there in the morning, but be that as it may, he directs that the enemy in your front and that of Burnside be attacked in the morning at 4.30 o'clock by your troops and those of Burnside in such manner and by such combinations of the two corps as may, in both your judgments, be deemed best. If the enemy should appear to be in strongest force on our left, and your attack should in consequence prove successful, you will follow it up, closing in upon them toward our left. If, on the contrary, the attack on the left should be successful, it will be followed up, moving toward our right. Harmony and co-operation on the part of General Burnside and yourself are earnestly enjoined.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Similar orders are sent to General Burnside. General Wilson, reenforced by 3,000 infantry and 2,000 cavalry from Port Royal, is ordered to move from Hanover Court-House by way of Haw's Shop and attack the enemy's rear and flank.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864.

General WARREN:

The commanding general directs that you issue the necessary instructions to carry into effect the following order.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 26. } *Bethesda Church, Va., June* 2, 1864.

1. Brig. Gen. H. H. Lockwood is hereby relieved from duty with the Fifth Corps, Army of the Potomac, and will proceed to Baltimore, Md., and await further orders, reporting by letter to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 131. } *June* 2, 1864.

1. By direction of the general commanding Army of the Potomac, Brigadier-General Lockwood is hereby relieved from command of the Second Division, and will report in person at the headquarters of Lieutenant-General Grant, commander-in-chief.

2. Brig. Gen. S. W. Crawford is assigned to the command of the Second Division, and will at once relieve General Lockwood.

3. The troops remaining in the old Third Division since the mustering out of the organization of the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps are transferred to the Second Division.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—4 a. m.

[General GRIFFIN:]

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have flankers well out on your left, and see that the enemy does not get around there before you know it.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

The officer in charge of our picket-line reports the enemy moving in heavy force to our left.

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—5 a. m.

[General GRIFFIN:]

GENERAL: General Warren directs me to inform you that General Lockwood has been found, and his division is in position on our extreme left.

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

[General GRIFFIN:]

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that if any of your troops are in the rear, or at all scattered from your command, you will bring them up close to your line. The orders to move to the left will shortly be sent to you.

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BETHESDA, *June* [2], 1864—10.15 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

General Burnside is going to withdraw his line so as to have his right rest near Bethesda Church, throwing back his flank. As soon as his troops have taken up their position I shall withdraw your division to the left, so you must have your things pushed up and all ready for the change of position. I presume it will take until near noon before he is ready for you to withdraw. I will send you word when he is in position here.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: General Warren desires that as soon as your command is ready to move out you report at these headquarters with your staff. He wishes to make some arrangements with you in regard to the movement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864—7.30 a. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: If you think best I will move the Second Brigade over in rear of the other two brigades of the division. I think that the Ninth Corps can take care of itself.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: General Warren directs me to say that your suggestion in regard to massing the Second Brigade meets his approval, and that you can do as you propose.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 2, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

Let the skirmishers of Colonel Bates' brigade move forward to the farther edge of the woods in which they now are. The same with the right half of the skirmishers of the Maryland Brigade. The line of battle of the left half of the Maryland Brigade should be moved forward 200 yards to the fence where Major Faehtz's skirmishers

are. The Maryland Brigade should throw some skirmishers into the tall black pines on their left, where there are a few of the enemy's sharpshooters, and feel whether the enemy is there in any strength.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864—9 a. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: The skirmishers of Bates' brigade were pushed out to the cap of the woods at daylight. The line of battle was at Faehtz's fence and is again being placed there. The skirmishers from the Maryland Brigade are ordered into the tall pines. I am about to relieve the skirmishers from this division who are in front of the artillery on my right. Will you please order those troops to throw out a line to replace them?

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: I now occupy the enemy's advanced pits near the outer extremity of the dense pines on the left of the Maryland Brigade. The enemy is in force in the heavy timber in front of the present picket-line, having a battery in position in the cap of the woods. We connect on the left of the picket-line with the Eighteenth Army Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

Please send Captain Monteith as soon as possible.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—11 a. m

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Army Corps:

My cavalry have reached Sumner's (upper) Bridge; find it destroyed. The enemy's cavalry on opposite side. They are in strong force in front and in the position which I marked on the map sent you by staff officer, Captain Parsons. A regiment of cavalry of mine is working down on your left flank, and will connect with you, advance with you, and give you information. General Gregg's division is also working up from Sumner's Bridge to connect with you.

Very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., SIXTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Capt. HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Captain Lincoln, commanding Sixth Maine, reports that the enemy have moved up a force of about two brigades to our left, and are throwing up breast-works on each side of a white house, the works facing the road and running nearly east and west.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GIDEON CLARK,
Lieutentant-Colonel, Commanding Third Brigade.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

The corps will attack the enemy at 5 p. m. to-day. Division commanders will take measures accordingly, and make such examination of their respective fronts as they may find to be necessary.

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

The attack ordered for 5 p. m. to-day is postponed until 4.30 a. m. to-morrow. In the mean time the necessary arrangements will be perfected.

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I did not get into my camp until after daylight, and was waiting for connection by telegraph before reporting. In the mean time Colonel Platt arrived, and has returned to you with all necessary information. Our fight last night was more serious than I reported, but the attack was handsomely repulsed. Prisoners taken this morning show that A. P. Hill is in front of our right in an intrenched position, about where I indicated to the general commanding yesterday. In what respect is General Warren's position changed since yesterday morning? Where are his headquarters?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

What is your position this morning, and what part of your force is available to operate elsewhere? Reply at once.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw as soon as you can do so securely, and mass in rear of the right of General Warren, and be prepared to resist an attempt of the enemy to attack or turn his right flank, and also to support General Warren in any part of the line he is holding upon his requiring it. The commanding general directs me to say that the defense of the right of the line is intrusted to yourself and General Warren, and that there should be mutual co-operation. Establish your headquarters as near to General Warren's as you can. Notify the cavalry picketing on your right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—7 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

In order to open roads to our left and to develop the enemy's position I have had to extend my line from your left upward of 4 miles. It is only a single line assisted by intrenchments and swamps, and nearly without reserves. I shall be unable to give you any reenforcements if you are pressed unless I abandon my line. General Meade directs me to call upon you for aid in the event of my being pressed.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Humphreys.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Warren is ordered to close the interval between himself and General Smith, about 1 mile, and also to contract his line so as to hold one half his force available. The commanding general directs that you move simultaneously with General Warren so as to keep massed in rear of his right, prepared to support General Warren and meet any attempt to turn his right flank, or for any other contingency.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

JUNE 2, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I have just received orders to extend my line to the left so as to connect with General Smith, and to shorten it by withdrawing my right so as to have half my forces available for contingencies. This

change to be made simultaneous with your closing in this way. This I think will require you to bring your right as far this way as Bethesda Church, where there is a good position, and give your batteries a fine opportunity to cover your right flank and rear. As soon as you are ready to make these changes I am. Major Morton had better come in advance and select the position for your right. My line of intrenchments will serve for your front. When all is ready we can move together. I send you a dispatch just received.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

[HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.]

General MEADE,
Commanding the Army of the Potomac:

Your dispatch received. If we are to hold the present line we have not a single available man for other work. Our right rests on the Totopotomoy, just beyond the Whitlock house, and our left connects with Warren. We still hold the extreme advance of yesterday by a heavy skirmish line; the main line is a single line. Colonel Platt has a sketch.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Your dispatch received respecting not having an available man if you hold your present line. Instructions were sent you this morning requiring you to withdraw from your position as soon as you could do so with security, and hold yourself massed in rear of the right of General Warren, ready to meet any attempt to turn his right, or to support General Warren if he required support. At 9 a. m. additional orders were sent you informing you that General Warren was ordered to close the interval between him and General Smith, nearly 1 mile, and also to contract his line, and you were directed to move so as to keep massed in rear of the right of General Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Corey's, June 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I commenced the withdrawal this forenoon in accordance with orders, and succeeded in getting two divisions on the right and rear of General Warren; but as the third was coming in it was attacked by a pretty heavy force of A. P. Hill's corps. The attack

was repulsed, and we succeeded in getting all the trains and hospitals to the rear, as well as the troops and artillery in position. After this, some two or three strong attacks were made, all of which were repulsed. It is certain that all of Hill's corps was here, and a part, if not all, of Ewell's. We have taken several prisoners from Hill's corps, and some from Johnson's division, of Ewell's corps, who say that Johnson's division was pretty well wiped out by Hancock's attack the other day.

Our men are all in good spirits, and I hope we will be able to carry out the orders of the commanding general for to-morrow morning. The main body of the enemy's forces which attacked are on the Shady Grove road. I have just this moment heard from General Wilson, who tells me that he has received no orders until those received through one of my messengers. I inclose his dispatch, and hope to be in communication with him before morning. General Warren has communicated to you fully as to our relative positions, and will probably receive orders from you during the night. My headquarters will be at this place for to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

We have not been able to communicate with the cavalry. Some distant firing is heard to our right; it is possible that they may be engaged in that direction; they are certainly not within a short distance from us. I have no cavalry, but will continue to endeavor to communicate with them by means of orderlies. A force of the enemy, probably only a brigade, has crossed to the north side of the Totopotomoy and are pressing back our skirmishers on that side of the river, evidently with a view to ascertaining our position. We are preparing to withdraw to the rear of Warren's right, but may have to move carefully in case they should attempt to follow.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

JUNE 2, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Warren asks if the crossing of that brigade is known at headquarters, and if our cavalry are on the right. He says nothing has occurred to hasten his own movements. He awaits yours.

CHAS. G. LORING,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—12 m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Dispatches were received from General Wilson, dated last evening, from beyond Hanover Court-House. He was ordered this

morning, upon the accomplishment of the duty of destroying the two railroads, to withdraw and cover the right of the army from the vicinity of Bethesda Church to the Pamunkey. He engaged the enemy yesterday and expected to meet him again to-day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—11 a. m.

General INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac:

It would seem that the movement we are ordered to make this morning in connection with General Warren would uncover the wagon trains at Old Church and New Castle Ferry, and they have probably been ordered to some other point. If such a change has been or is to be made, will you kindly inform me of their destination, as I desire to send to the train to-day. Will a train go to White House to-day?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I am anxiously awaiting a reply to my last dispatch before countermanding the order to occupy the original line. Where is General Ferrero's command, and is there any cavalry force on my right?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The major-general commanding wishes to know what progress you have made in the change of positions ordered this morning, and at what time you will be posted as directed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—2 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

All our hospitals, ammunition trains, surplus artillery, and caissons are out of the way, and the troops are also well under way. It is more than likely that we will be in position in two hours and perhaps less. We have not yet been able to communicate with the cavalry. I have a party now out for that purpose.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The commanding general directs that as soon as your supply wagons come up from the White House you draw and issue to your troops two days' rations, which will make four days' on the persons of the men from to-morrow morning.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

General INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac:

Will the baggage and general trains of the army be parked at Anderson's; if not, where will they be?

A. E. BURNSIDE;
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The supply trains are moving to-day to Anderson's, on the route to White House, where they will be parked. I presumed General Williams had notified you. A train will leave for White House to-day and will probably leave or pass Anderson's early to-morrow. The empty wagons must take in wounded.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your several dispatches but just now received. The major-general commanding directs me to reply that General Ferrero is with the trains between Old Church and New Castle. There is only a small cavalry force on your right covering that flank, the rest of Wilson's division being occupied in destroying the railroad, &c. General Hancock was in communication with the cavalry on the right, which is pushed along the Hanover Court-House road. In respect to your changing the position of your troops, the commanding general will not limit you further than to direct that you do not change the left of your line where it connects with General Warren. Otherwise make the best disposition of your troops that, in your judgment, the ground admits.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—9.30 a. m.

The general commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness to move at a moment's notice, making the preparations at once. Send one of your staff officers to explore the roads and lanes through the woods to your rear, so that they may be able to guide the troops without delay, and report to these headquarters when you are ready to move.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To Generals Crittenden, Potter, and Willcox.)

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The enemy has moved a force, seemingly not more than a brigade, around my right, crossing the Totopotomoy. They are seemingly now lying in the woods in the rear of Washington Jones' house, feeling about with their skirmishers and scouts, apparently to ascertain the disposition of our force. I have a line of skirmishers north of the Totopotomoy, swinging around toward the Jones house. I can find nothing of the cavalry, but considerable distant firing has been heard to the right. My line of skirmishers is in the position of my main line last night. My command is in readiness to move at any time. The enemy are feeling my line of skirmishers a little now.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—12.15 a. m.

Major-General SMITH:

Your dispatch of 11 [10.50] p. m. yesterday is received. Every effort will be made to send you ammunition and medical supplies. By borrowing from other corps, arrangements can also be made by your chief quartermaster and commissary to obtain rations and forage.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—12.15 a. m.

Major-General SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

I have seen Generals Grant and Meade. The latter has ordered a supply of ammunition to be sent you to-night. General Meade also

said that if you would send your quartermaster and commissary to report at these headquarters, efforts will be made to supply you with rations and forage.

F. U. FARQUHAR,
Captain, Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 2, 1864. (Received 1.20 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that I think my line perfectly indefensible without more troops. I have been obliged to take the only brigade in reserve to fill up a gap in my lines.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 2, 1864. (Received 2.20 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: All my chiefs of departments, excepting engineers and signal corps, are at White House, hurrying forward supplies to me. They will return as soon as all that I have left behind is forwarded.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Your order for an attack in the morning is received. I have endeavored to represent to you my condition. In the present condition of my line an attack by me would be simply preposterous; not only that, but an attack on the part of the enemy of any vigor would probably carry my lines more than half their length. I have called on General Wright for about 100,000 rounds of ammunition, and have asked it to-night. Deserters report the enemy massing on my right for an attack early in the morning.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—2.30 a. m. (Received 2.40 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH, *Commanding Corps*
(Through General Wright's headquarters):

Your dispatch of 2.20 a. m. received. The major-general commanding directs me to reply that he has done everything in his power to have a supply of ammunition sent to you at the earliest possible moment.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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* June 1, as given by Smith. See Part I, p. 1001.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General SMITH:

I have given direction by which I hope all your wants, particularly ammunition, will be supplied this morning. In the mean time I have directed General Hancock to leave a division in your vicinity to aid you in case of necessity, and until you get ammunition. After that you must dispose your forces so as to take care of your own command, as Hancock's troops are required elsewhere.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

General MEADE:

Fearful that you should misunderstand the strength of my command, I deem it my duty to inform you that I think I have barely 9,000 men all told with me this morning. There are many stragglers from the command, and yesterday one brigade was badly cut and demoralized in the assault on the rifle-pits. My ammunition has not come, and two brigades with hardly any ammunition are in the front trying to hold the works taken from the enemy by assault yesterday in the woods.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH:

GENERAL: Your two regiments will be ordered back at once. The ordnance officer of the corps will be directed to furnish the ammunition you require, and will send the wagons up at once to the vicinity of Cold Harbor. Can you direct your ordnance officer to communicate with Captain Stevens, ordnance officer of the corps? Our ammunition train is on the road to Old Church, about 1 mile back from Cold Harbor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

General Abercrombie has arrived at White House and directed General Ames to remain there till he relieves him. Does this meet with the approbation of General Grant? In compliance with his orders, I have ordered General Ames to report with his command on the arrival of General Abercrombie, and shall require him to execute this order unless General Grant directs otherwise.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1864—7.45 p. m. (Received 8 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you extend a regiment or two along the road from Woody's to Bethesda Church, to meet the extension of General Warren's left toward you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that yesterday at 4.30 p. m. the Eighteenth Corps assaulted the enemy's lines in front and carried them at all points. The Third Division, under the command of Brig. Gen. Charles Devens, consisting of brigades of Colonel Drake and Colonel Barton, charged across an open field, 1,250 yards in width, swept by a cross-fire of the enemy's artillery, carried the edge of the woods, and drove the enemy from their intrenchments, which were protected by slashings and entanglements, taking some 250 prisoners, which in the haste of the moment were sent to the headquarters Sixth Corps. The division of General Ricketts, coming up on the left, aided General Devens in holding the pits so gallantly taken. A very few minutes after Colonel Henry, commanding Third Brigade, First Division, Eighteenth Corps, charged the enemy's lines on the right of my front, and after a short but severe struggle carried them, but was unable to hold them, owing to the fact that a redoubt of the enemy behind his rifle-pits completely commanded (Colonel Henry's position) them. General Martindale, with his division, consisting of two brigades, except two regiments, which before the attack had been sent to the assistance of General Wright, held the right flank during the movement, and at the partial success of Colonel Henry was ordered to sweep down in rear of the rifle-pits, which he either held or commanded. Darkness coming on before he could make the necessary changes in his lines, I was forced to countermand the order, and our lines were drawn back to the position indicated to you in my dispatch of last night. The brigades of Colonel Barton and Colonel Henry held their portion of the line with scarcely any ammunition until nearly 7 o'clock this morning, when the troops received a fresh supply by the kindness of General Wright. I cannot commend too highly to the notice of the commanding general the conduct of Colonel Drake, who fell severely wounded leading the advanced line of General Devens, and Colonel Barton, who led the supporting line and so gallantly held what Colonel Drake had taken.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

General BROOKS:

Some officers from General Devens' front report the enemy massing on our left flank, and two pieces of artillery posted. General Neill has been ordered to relieve Devens, and Devens will form in rear of you.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864.]

Brig. Gen. W. T. H. BROOKS, *Comdg. First Division:*

GENERAL: You will form your column on the left bank of the ravine, and make a direct assault upon the work, provided there be space enough to operate between General Martindale's column and the troops of Sixth Corps. Should this not be the case, you will be ordered to co-operate with General Martindale on the right bank of the ravine. The necessity of keeping out a heavy line of skirmishers and flankers is particularly impressed upon you. Should any artillery position be found useful, Captain Elder will furnish the artillery when you call upon him. You will give instructions to your ordnance officer to procure such ammunition as you may require, which will be promptly brought up during the fight. The instructions concerning artillery position, &c., skirmishers and flankers, will apply to both. General Brooks will not move till he ascertains if there be room between General Martindale and right of Sixth Corps to operate. General Martindale will remain in his present position, with lines extended, till further orders.

By command of Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. H. MARTINDALE, *Comdg. Second Division:*

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you form your command to-night, and move at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow down the ravine on the left of the present position of Colonel Henry. You will endeavor to get in rear of and capture the battery which now enfilades the rifle-pits taken yesterday. You will move in column of division, closed en masse, preceded by a heavy skirmish line and flankers on right flank. Should the ravine be found impracticable on account of natural obstacles, or be so strongly fortified as to preclude the chances of gaining it by assault, you will form your command on the right bank of the ravine with a development of front dictated by circumstances and the character of the ground, and assault the enemy's works at the nearest point. Should the assault be successful, the attack will be pushed till some strong commanding position is gained.

By command of Maj. Gen. William F. Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

General DEVENS,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: General Neill's division, of the Sixth Corps, has been ordered to relieve your division. As fast as he relieves your line you will form in line in rear of General Brooks, so far back of the edge of the woods and between it and the road as to be entirely out of artillery fire. Please report when formed in this new line.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 2, 1864.

General AMES:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires you to send forward as soon as possible all wagons, supplies, ambulances, &c., and beef-cattle on the hoof, belonging to this command. You will please join us, with all troops of this corps, as soon as you can leave the White House, according to your first orders from General Smith.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Field report U. S. Forces, White House, Va.

Troops.	Infantry.		Cavalry.		Total.	
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
General and staff	4					
Band		11				11
3d New York Volunteers, Capt. A. A. Mann	14	240			14	240
117th New York Volunteers, Col. A. White	29	615			29	615
142d New York Volunteers, Col. N. M. Curtis	28	439			28	439
4th New Hampshire Volunteers, Col. L. Bell	26	493			26	493
97th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Col. H. R. Guss	18	438			18	438
38th Wisconsin Volunteers	12	221			12	221
1st Minnesota Volunteers (detachment)	6	161			6	161
58th Massachusetts Volunteers (detachment)	3	49			3	49
25th New York Cavalry (detachment)			6	156	6	156
24th New York Cavalry (detachment)				22		22
18th Pennsylvania Cavalry				17		17
Total	140	2,667	6	195	142	2,862
Attached	5	42			5	42

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
White House Landing, Va., June 2, 1864.

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

The Fourth Infantry, U. S. Army, and One hundred and thirty-second Ohio Volunteers are not included in this report, having been ordered to report direct to Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie, commanding post.

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF POTOMAC, *June* 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state, for the information of the general commanding, that my advance is at Sumner's (upper) Bridge. Find the bridge destroyed; the enemy's cavalry on the opposite side in some force. There are two parallel roads leading to the bridge; between these roads the enemy are strongly intrenched with artillery in position. The enemy have a small pond and swamp on their left. I have directed General Gregg to try and work around it and join on to General Wright's left. My pickets connect with General Wright's left flank and extend out on some parallel road, crossing the country to the east of Cold Harbor and General Wright's left.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Dr. Price's, 2 Miles from Hanover Court-House,
June 2, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

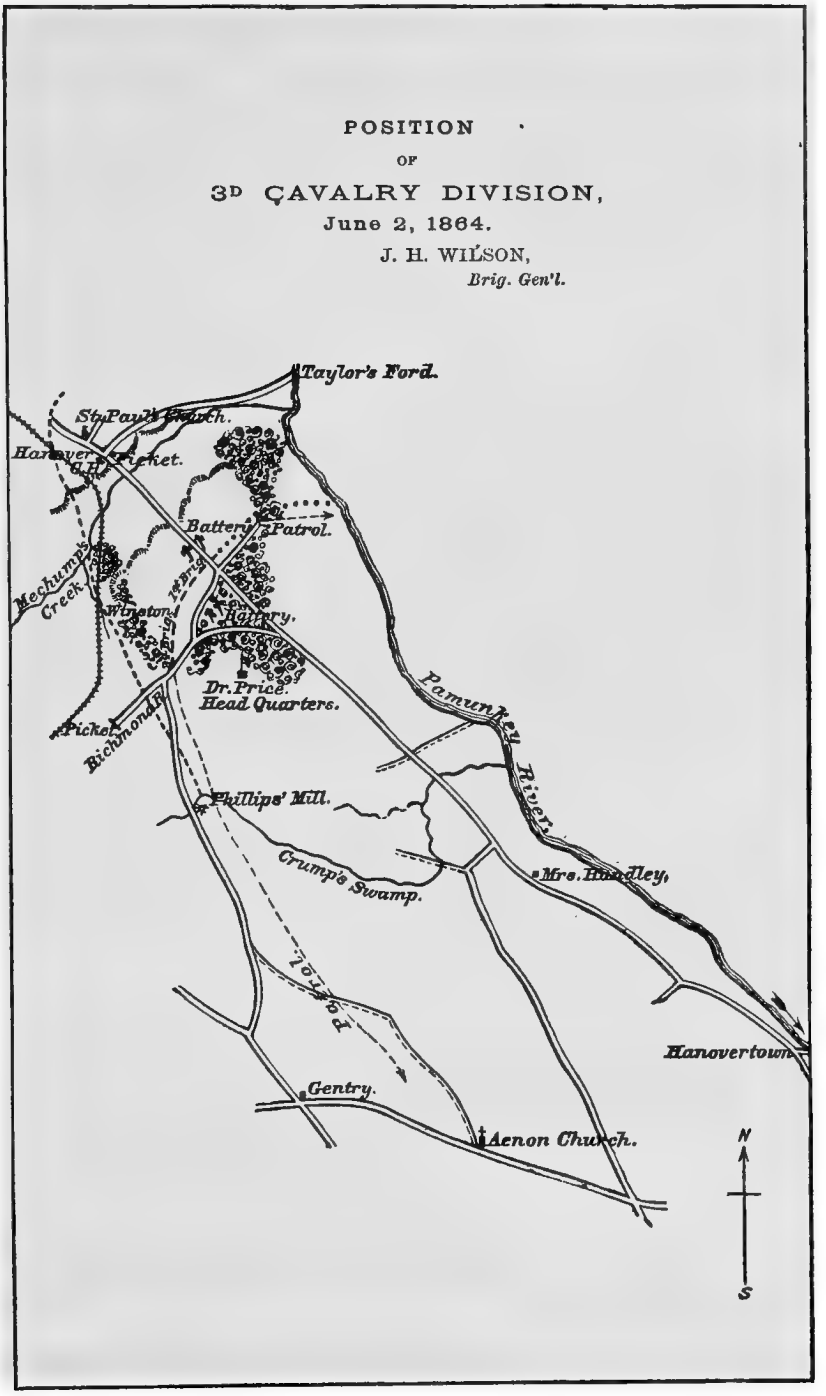
GENERAL: Since sending Captain Whitaker, of my staff, to see you, I have examined my position more carefully, a sketch of which I send herewith. I am satisfied the line is too long for me to hold in case of any decided attack by the cavalry force known to be on this flank of the army. My position is strong and the troops well in hand, but the connection between me and the right of the army is necessarily very weak. I have prisoners from Young's and Chambliss' brigades of cavalry, Johnson's Maryland Battalion, and Hunton's brigade of infantry. Chambliss is said to be posted on the Hanover Court-House and Richmond road; Young on the Ashland road. Colonel McIntosh thinks at least three brigades were engaged with him yesterday. The prisoners report that the cavalry troops are mostly posted about Atlee's. Pickett's division was at Ashland day before yesterday.

I have directed Colonel Chapman, commanding Second Brigade, to establish a courier-line on the shortest route to the right of the army. The destruction of the South Anna bridges is complete. We have also damaged the roads all that was possible with the means at my disposal. In order to reach the bridges over Little River a couple of regiments might be sent by Taylor's Ford and Chesterfield. I will send them if you wish it. I will send through the regular channels a report of casualties. Our loss, however, will not be large for the amount of fighting we have done since crossing Crump's Creek. I have just received information from Colonel Harhaus, Second New York, on picket at Hanover Court-House, that column of re-enforcements—cavalry, infantry—from the north is just arriving at Hanover Court-House, having crossed the Pamunkey at Taylor's.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—I was compelled to leave 30 or 40 wounded at Ashland—2 officers—for the lack of ambulances. Would it be proper to send a flag of truce, with a train of ambulances, for permission to bring them in?

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.


POSITION
OF
3D CAVALRY DIVISION,
June 2, 1864.
J. H. WILSON,
Brig. Gen'l.
Taylor's Ford.
St. Paul's Church.
Hanover C.H.
Picket.
Battery
Patrol.
Mechumps Creek
Winston's
Battery.
Dr. Price.
Head Quarters.
Pickets
Richmond Rd.
Pamunkey River.
Phillips' Mill.
Crump's Swamp.
Mrs. Bradley.
Hanovertown
Gentry.
Aenon Church.
N
S

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In the absence of orders, I shall move as soon as Colonel Cesnola's command shall have passed through my lines to Crump's Creek, or beyond, so as to re-establish communication with the right of the army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, June 2, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report my arrival here on the 1st instant, when I found General Ames' brigade, of the Eighteenth Corps d'Armée, and whom I relieved to-day. I also found instructions from General Grant to retain such troops as I might deem necessary [for the defense] of the depot until the engineers, who reported to me to day, could throw up such earth-works as were needed for the safety of the supplies, &c. Owing, however, to the want of intrenching tools but little has yet been done. The telegraph operator thinks he will have the line in working order some time to-morrow. I presume you have been apprised the rails have been taken up and the ties destroyed between West Point and the Chickahominy. There are over 600 rebel prisoners at this place, but no blanks to enroll them. Heavy firing in front until dark all day.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—I have a force of 6,057 men, 762 of which are three-months' men, 720 Invalid Battalion, 200 dismounted cavalry, 226 mounted men, leaving about 4,300 who will be sent forward guarding trains.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. HEADQUARTERS,
White House, Va., June 2, 1864.

The undersigned assumes command of all the troops at this place and vicinity. All communications will be addressed to Capt. R. L. Orr, acting assistant adjutant-general. General Ames' command will remain at White House until relieved.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Camp off Fortress Monroe, Va., June 2, 1864—10.40 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: As I have not received any reply as yet to the telegrams I have sent you from Washington and this place, I of course understand (if they have been received) that the action I have taken has

been approved. Yet fearing that these telegrams may have miscarried or been delayed, I herewith report again in writing, as I am still waiting orders, according to your orders in duplicate of 27th and 28th ultimo. The first received at about 11 p. m. of the 27th, was at once acted upon and my men set to work during the night to make up the bridge rafts and barges and steamers called for from the quartermaster's department, as, according to my first reply of 6 a. m. of 28th (copy of which I inclose).* I judged that I ought to take the special material ordered in April. As soon as barges were received, the loading of this material commenced, and by continuing the work through the whole of the night of the 28th, we were ready before noon of the next day, at which time with the limited steamers obtained from the quartermaster's department we started for this place. The men with the barges of special material arrived here about noon and near midnight of the 30th, and the pontoon rafts, which had to lay over each night, about 1 to 2 a. m. June 1.

I reported immediately on arriving, as per copy of telegram dated 30th ultimo at 11 p. m.† On the 31st at near sunset a telegram to commanding officer here was received from General Halleck, of which copy† and indorsement of General Butler's assistant adjutant-general are inclosed, also copy of my telegram† to you, sent up York River, in relation to this. As I have not been certain that this telegram of General Halleck's was known to you, I have been greatly embarrassed to decide whether you would have wished all my men and the special material to go also without your direct order. I have complied literally with General Halleck's order, and sent the bridges and men to lay them up to General Butler, and have been on the point of taking everything else up for fear that might be what was desired, and I have even telegraphed General Butler, as per copy inclosed,† to ask for information on the subject, [*sic*] though sent at 9 a. m. yesterday. My best judgment from the reports here of operations lead me to the conviction that you may be as likely to need these men and material up the York as up the James River, and that it is my duty to await your orders here with my transportation, unless an imperative call should reach me from General Butler.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Farrar's Island, June 2, 1864. (Received 11 a. m. 5th.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy :

No change in the naval situation, except that I have received here from General Butler the vessels he had provided at City Point as part of his plan of campaign for obstructing James River.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

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* See Benham to Williams, May 28, p. 274.
† *Ante*, pp. 366, 416, 472.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 2, 1864—2.30 p. m. (Received 10.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I forward, for the information of the War Department, an extract of a letter dated Charleston, May 6, 1864, taken from the dead body of Col. O. M. Dantzler, Twenty-second South Carolina Regiment, who was killed in an attack upon our lines this morning, and whose dead body is in our hands:

No news. All very quiet here. We are very short-handed now. The Twentieth was positively ordered, and was ready to go, but the order was countermanded, and it is now the only infantry left nearer Charleston than Savannah. If we are allowed to remain quiet, all this is well enough, but if we should be attacked by any of the approaches to the city, I fear the consequences. The contingency is too gloomy to think about.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, June 2, 1864.

Rear-Admiral S. P. LEE,
Commanding North Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: Your communication, dated June 2,* in regard to the obstructions, is received. The five vessels sent up were procured by my order for the purpose of being used as obstructions to the river, if, in the judgment of the naval commander, they would add to the security of his fleet. I have no difficulty as to the point at which we desire to secure the river. It is the right of my line, near Curtis' house, at the ravine, but whether the river shall be secured by obstructions or by the vessels, or a disposition of your obstructions, or of the vessels of your navy, neither myself nor my engineers have any right to feel ourselves confident to give an opinion. The vessels are wholly at your service, but upon your judgment and not mine must rest their use.

In accordance with your request, as I informed your officer, I will visit you this afternoon and designate the spot we desire to be held, but whether by means of obstructions or by your ships, or by both combined, must be solely for you to determine. While I know you would not undertake to give directions to my engineers as to the situation of our earth-works on land, so we ought not to presume to advise you as to your means of defending the water. I have not consulted the War Department upon the question whether I should procure these obstructions. I suppose that was fairly within my discretion, and I venture respectfully to add that the question whether you should use them is entirely within yours. The Navy Department cannot know the urgencies as you know them, and I am certain must leave that question to the good judgment of the rear-admiral commanding the fleet.

I am aware of the delicacy naval gentlemen feel in depending upon anything but their ships in a contest with the enemy, and if it was a contest with the enemy's ships alone, I certainly would not advise the obstructions, even at the great risk of losing the river; but in a contest against such unchristian modes of warfare as fire-

*See p. 44, Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy, December 5, 1864.

rafts and torpedo-boats, I think all questions of delicacy should be waived by the paramount consideration of protection for the lives of the men and the safety of the very valuable vessels of the squadron. Pardon me if I have overstepped any line of duty or courtesy in the latter suggestion.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

JUNE 2, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel FULLER:

How long will it take Captain Ainsworth and all the men you can spare to put 60 tons of ballast in each of the obstruction vessels? Answer by telegraph.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BERMUDA, *June* 2, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have had all hands at work during the night digging stones. I have a sufficient amount for three schooners ready. I sent two tugs at 3 o'clock this a. m. up the river after the schooners. They have not yet returned; the admiral must have detained them.

GEO. S. DODGE,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

JUNE 2, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel FULLER:

Have six coils of the telegraph wire at Bermuda Hundred sent to Colonel Ames at Spring Hill at once.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BERMUDA, *June* 2, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

The tug Van Vliet has gone to Colonel Ames at Spring Hill with six coils of telegraph wire, as ordered.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—7.58 a. m.

General BUTLER,
Commanding:

General Terry's pickets on the right, Ames' old front, have been driven back from their advanced rifle-pits. The enemy pierced the line in several places. They still hold the woods. I have ordered re-enforcements and intrenching tools out.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

JUNE 2, 1864—8.30 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

What force drove in your picket-line, and forced it in several places? Digging rifle-pits for the enemy to occupy does not seem to be the most pleasant work. Send in any prisoners or refugees you have.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 2, 1864—8.40 a. m. (Received 9.10 a. m.)

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

Your dispatch was received just as I was going out. The attack made by Colonel Dantzler, to which your dispatch refers, was a trifling affair and easily repulsed. I presume the prisoners taken there knew nothing of any operation, except the one in which they were engaged. That took place on General Terry's extreme left. His entire line was attacked on the right by a close line of skirmishers, elbow to elbow, supported by a line of battle. I have lost 10 officers and probably 200 men in killed, wounded, and missing. All this loss was on Terry's right and not near Colonel Dantzler's attack. The information given by the prisoners is not at all reliable, except for one point. I take the reports of my officers on the right as to what they saw rather than those of men half a mile distant.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S,
June 2, 1864—8.45 a. m.

General BUTLER:

General Terry reports a heavy force in his front, but does not give numbers. We have taken some prisoners and lost some of Seventh Connecticut. I yesterday ordered General Kautz to replace the pistols in his command by muskets. Are there any on hand near here?

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

JUNE 2, 1864—9.10 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

Dispatch received. Mordecai reports 120 rifles, which he will furnish Kautz. If the woods are occupied in heavy force by the enemy, a vigorous shelling might do injury to them.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BATTERY NO. 3, *June* 2, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Colonel Dandy, general officer of the day, reports that the enemy's line of battle is close to our pickets in my center. He says that they appear to be bringing up additional troops and artillery. My pickets are back to the forks of the road, after losing heavily.

A. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

P. S.—Copy to General Gillmore.

B. F. B.

PICKET-LINE, *June* 2, 1864.

[Capt. ADRIAN TERRY:]

The enemy's line of battle is in the road in the woods this side of our rifle-pits, and Captain Hill reports him massing near the right center. My line is posted as skirmishers, with reserves on this edge of the woods. I have vedettes out. We also have the reserve rifle-pits near the headquarters of general officer of the day. The rebels are in considerable force in front, and the cars come and go constantly. I have directed the forces, if pressed in force, to fall back slowly.

G. B. DANDY,
Col. One hundredth New York, General Officer of the Day.

BATTERY NO. 3, *June* 2, 1864.

Col. G. B. DANDY,
General Officer of the Day:

You will immediately throw up rifle-pits on the line you now hold. Colonel Plaisted has been ordered to send you supports. A wagon load of shovels will be sent to the forks of the road for you.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATTERY NO. 3, *June* 2, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

I have already examined into the falling back of pickets in front of No. 4. Their flank was turned and a very large part of the men on their right were killed and captured. I think it was a choice between capture or retreat. The fatigue parties have been ordered out. Those for the redan in front of No. 1 will bear their arms and constitute the garrison for the work. The redan in front of No. 3 is garrisoned by three companies of the Sixty-seventh Ohio and 40 men of the Seventh Connecticut, with orders to hold it. I cannot agree with you that the men yield too easily. The attack was in

force. The Seventh Connecticut have lost probably 150 in killed, wounded, and prisoners, among them 5 officers. The Eleventh Maine have lost 3 officers, including Colonel Spofford, wounded.

Very respectfully,

A. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—The rifle-pits in front of No. 4 are partly held by us and partly by the enemy. I have given orders to endeavor to edge up from the left and get the whole line.

A. H. T.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded to General Butler.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 2, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE:

I have examined a half dozen of these prisoners. There was no charge made by anybody but the picket-line. One very intelligent Pole informs me that Colonel Dantzler, who was killed, said, "Boys, they are evacuating; we will go in and have some fun," and they charged to find out, in order, they said, to understand why we did not reply to the shelling last night. There are no troops massed in our front. There is the line only, weakly defended. Four brigades left there three nights ago, and Evans' brigade, a portion of whom made this charge, were sent from the left to hold their place, they proposing to hold their right by means of Fort Clifton. I have ordered over all of Duncan's brigade from Spring Hill.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GILLMORE'S,
June 2, 1864.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In answer to telegram I have the honor to report 98 officers and 2,437 enlisted men present for duty in the colored regiments under my command. Of this number 30 officers and 617 men belong to the colored cavalry.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S, *June* 2, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have the honor to forward the following dispatch just received.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH CORPS,
In the Field, June 2, 1864—10 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I regret to report that the enemy have again broken into our picket-line near the angle of the woods. I have ordered 150 additional men and hope to retake the position. My force is very weak for the great amount of duty which it is called upon to perform. The number of men required for the picket-line and redans is so great as to seriously weaken the defense of the intrenchments. I therefore most earnestly request that the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, which has been absent from my command nearly a month, may be returned to me.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALF. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BATTERY NO. 3, *June 2*, 1864—9.40 a. m.

Admiral S. P. LEE:

Will you be so kind as to shell on the direction of the range posts, giving such elevation to your guns as will carry the shot well over the farthest woods?

A. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

BATTERY NO. 3, *June 2*, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

Colonel Plimpton has advanced his men and occupied the rifle-pits in the woods; he is getting possession of the unoccupied ones in the open field. He has about a dozen prisoners. The enemy opened furiously on No. 3 with guns from four points. We replied from 3, 4, and 5; shut them up.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, June 2, 1864—10.45 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. H. TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 10 p. m. is received and will be forwarded to the major-general commanding the department. Major-General Gillmore deems it important that the position be regained, and directs that if you are again forced a garrison be placed in the new redoubt in front of Battery No. 1.

Respectfully, &c.,
ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 35. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., June 2, 1864.*

So much of Special Orders, No. 34, current series, from these headquarters, as assigns Company M, Third Pennsylvania Artillery, to the command of Brigadier-General Terry is revoked. Company M will report to Colonel Abbot, as before.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

JUNE 2, 1864—6.20 a. m.

Colonel HOWELL:

The whole of Colonel Hawley's picket-line is driven in and some of them taken. You must caution your pickets to look out lest their left be turned.

By order of Brigadier-General Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Colonel Plaisted.)

BATTERY NO. 4, *June* 2, 1864.

Col. J. B. HOWELL,
Commanding First Brigade:

You will immediately detail from the Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers four companies, of not less than 150 men, to be posted as a garrison in the redan in front of Battery No. 3, under the command of Major Butler, who will for this purpose be relieved from the command of the invalid department. These men will constitute the permanent garrison of the work, with orders to defend it to the last. That portion of the Seventh Connecticut Volunteers now in the work will be ordered back to their regiment by Major Butler. The garrison will immediately proceed to complete and strengthen the work. Another officer will be detailed to command the invalids by you.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATTERY NO. 3, *June* 2, 1864—9.05 a. m.

Colonel PLAISTED:

Have every man who can by any possibility walk or stand up to the breast-works sent to the intrenchments forthwith.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

BATTERY NO. 3, *June* 2, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Colonel PLAISTED:

You will immediately send the fatigue parties ordered for this morning to the points at which they were ordered to report. Those who go to the redan in front of Battery No. 1 will be the garrison for that work, and will hold it to the last.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry:

ADRIAN TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., June 2, 1864—11 p. m.
(Received 11.27 p. m.)

Col. H. M. PLAISTED,
Commanding Third Brigade:

The brigadier-general commanding directs that your battalion of sharpshooters occupy the redan in front of Battery No. 1 at once, instead of waiting until daybreak, as directed in Special Orders, No. 30, paragraph 2, of this date.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Point of Rocks, Va., June 2, 1864.

Col. F. B. POND,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to say that the infantry force performing outpost duty beyond the causeway should consist of one company and a half, of not less than 50 men, with their complement of officers. The number required on the mill road on the right of the line may consist of one company of white troops and one company of colored troops; the white troops performing the picket duty. This grand guard will be regularly mounted hereafter at 6 p. m., and be inspected by the field officer of the day. Replace the company of Wisconsin regiment doing duty at commissary's wharf by the same number of men with 1 officer from convalescent camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 2, 1864—12.30 a. m.

General BUTLER:

Have you ordered General Wild to send men to report to me? General Wild has sent Colonel Holman with 1,200 men to report to me, with the intention of going to Petersburg, as he says, pursuant to orders from me, which orders I never issued. I fear it is a ruse to weaken Powhatan. Shall I send him back immediately? I have received no orders and made no preparations.

HINKS,
General.

JUNE 2, 1864—1 a. m.

General HINKS:

I have ordered some of Wild's men, what can be spared, to Spring Hill with a purpose. You need not send them back. Send them to Spring Hill, and let them remain on board the boats till morning light, and then further orders will be given. I thought you were notified of the bringing up of the men. It is a mistake you were not. Grant's movements may change a plan.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

JUNE 2, 1864.
(Received 9.30 a. m.)

General HINKS:

Please come here immediately. I want to see you. Answer.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

JUNE 2, 1864—9.50 a. m.

OFFICER IN COMMAND AT SPRING HILL:

Send the men of Wild's brigade on board their boats at once, to go to commissary wharf, near Point of Rocks, there to disembark and await orders.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *June* 2, 1864—10 a. m.

General BUTLER:

General Hinks left here two hours ago with the intention of calling upon you.

S. A. CARTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COBB'S HILL SIGNAL STATION, VA.,
June 2, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General BUTLER:

Order received. Boat will leave in half an hour.

AMES,
Colonel.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION, VA.,
June 2, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General BUTLER:

The boats with the troops under Colonel Holman have left Spring Hill wharf for the Point of Rocks.

AMES,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General HINKS,
Commanding at City Point, Va.:

You will allow the troops from Wild's brigade to disembark at Spring Hill, refresh and rest themselves. The same boat may bring over a portion of one of the regiments of Colonel Duncan's brigade, so as to reunite his regiments.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

JUNE 2, 1864.
(Received 8.45 a. m.)

General HINKS:

I have no boat this forenoon. I sent General Wild all my small boats. Will make a change with you as soon as they return.

DODGE,
Captain.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., June 2, 1864.

Capt. MELANCTON SMITH,
Senior Naval Officer, Sounds of North Carolina:

CAPTAIN: Your last letter concerning the information you had received of the evacuation of Plymouth [is received]. I have no force that I could make use of at Plymouth, and to reoccupy that place in the present state of my command would be only to hold a bait to be grasped at any time. I would like to do something more than "hold on here," but you are aware, I suspect, that every man that could be possibly spared was sent to General Butler. I inclose a letter to a Miss Jones, at Edenton. This lady wishes very much to get to the Catholic Institution at Mount De Sales, and I have promised her friends at the North to do everything I could for her. If she can be taken on board of one of the gun-boats and sent here I would feel very much obliged. I have thought very strongly of occupying Edenton just as soon as I can feel that I have the force to do it. Do you not think that better than to reoccupy Plymouth? I am anxious to hear whether Captain Lee has been able to accomplish anything with his torpedoes.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., June 2, 1864.

COMDG. OFFICER CONFD. FORCES, LITTLE WASHINGTON, N. C.:

SIR: I have been informed that many persons, principally women and children, in and about Little Washington, are in a suffering and destitute condition, owing principally to the burning of their houses and property in the recent unfortunate conflagration. If these

people are permitted to come here they will be provided for, and I send a steamer for the purpose of bringing all who desire to come. Should more desire or be permitted to come than can be accommodated at this time other vessels will be sent for them, and in this case I would like to be informed where they will be assembled and the time at which it would be advisable to send. I hope that this effort to relieve the necessities of these poor people, who are in no way responsible for the present unfortunate war, will be met in the spirit it is made.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864—2 p. m.
(Received 7.55 a. m. 4th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

We assaulted at 4.30 o'clock this morning, driving the enemy within his intrenchments at all points, but without gaining any decisive advantage. Our troops now occupy a position close to the enemy, some places within 50 yards, and are intrenching. Our loss was not severe, nor do I suppose the enemy to have lost heavily. We captured over 300 prisoners, mostly from Breckinridge's command.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864—3 p. m.
(Received 8 a. m. 4th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

In view of the time it would take to get orders to New Orleans, and to transport troops from there here, I do not think it advisable to bring the Nineteenth Corps to this field. Since Banks' disaster, too, all the troops in the Trans-Mississippi division may be required there. If there are any surplus troops west they could be advantageously used against Mobile, as suggested in Sherman's dispatch of May 30. Please so order. Let Reynolds or Franklin command the expedition. The sixty pontoon-boats coming from New York with what we have here and at Fort Monroe will be sufficient.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864. (Received 5.15 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Barlow reports that he has enemy's works with colors and guns. I am at General Wright's headquarters.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Hancock reports Barlow could not hold the works carried, but has retired a short distance, and is about attacking again. Colors advancing and near the works. Heavy firing in Smith's front, but no report of progress from either him or Wright.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send dispatch from Hancock and reply. No reports from Wright and Smith.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—6 a. m.

General MEADE:

My First and Second Divisions have both been engaged. The men are very close to the enemy, under a crest, but seem unable to carry it. Birney is occupying the advanced line of works vacated by First and Second Divisions in moving to the assault. The commanders of First and Second Divisions do not think they can use more troops than their own with any great certainty of success. I shall await your orders, but express the opinion that if the first dash in an assault fails, other attempts are not apt to succeed better.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—6.35 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your dispatch received. You will make the attack and support it well, so that in the event of being successful, the advantage gained can be held. If unsuccessful report at once.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 3, 1864—7 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Reports from Wright announce some progress. His advance occupies a line of the enemy's pits—I presume their skirmish line. He reports the Eighteenth Corps having occupied the same line, but retiring. His (Wright's) line is pushing on. No report from Smith. I sent you one from Hancock, reporting he was about attempting another assault, written before my order to him to do so had reached him. I should be glad to have your views as to the continuance of these attacks, if unsuccessful.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

NEAR COLD HARBOR, *June* 3, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

The moment it becomes certain that an assault cannot succeed, suspend the offensive, but when one does succeed push it vigorously, and if necessary pile in troops at the successful point from wherever they can be taken. I shall go to where you are in the course of an hour.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

COLD HARBOR, *June* 3, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

The opinion of corps commanders not being sanguine of success in case an assault is ordered, you may direct a suspension of farther advance for the present. Hold our most advanced positions, and strengthen them. Whilst on the defensive, our line may be contracted from the right, if practicable. Reconnaissances should be made in front of every corps, and advances made to advantageous positions by regular approaches. To aid the expedition under General Hunter it is necessary that we should detain all the army now with Lee until the former gets well on his way to Lynchburg. To do this effectually it will be better to keep the enemy out of the intrenchments of Richmond than to have them go back there. Wright and Hancock should be ready to assault in case the enemy should break through General Smith's lines, and all should be ready to resist an assault.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The telegrams you return were sent from here by me, so that you need not return them. Warren was re-enforced by Birney, and posted him on his left, where he now is, forming connection between Smith and Warren. I have notified Warren there are no other troops to send him, and that he and Burnside must contract their lines to-night. Everything is apparently quiet along the lines. We hold all our advanced positions, and are intrenching. To-night Hancock will establish batteries, and we will begin all along the lines, digging up to the enemy's works. I have sent out officers to each of the corps and to the hospitals to endeavor to form some estimate of the casualties to-day.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—9.25 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Do you think it worth while to do anything about the York River Railroad in the way of bringing locomotives and cars? If the weather continues good we can haul, but if we have rain, and are detained on the Chickahominy, we shall be embarrassed with bad, detestably bad, roads.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

I think I will not order cars for the York River Railroad just yet. The wagons now at White House will give us supplies to about the 15th, and before that I hope our base will be changed to the James River.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
June 3, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Might not two or more Coehorns be well used in front of Barlow to-night?

Respectfully,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding:

GENERAL The Coehorns have been in position and in use all the afternoon in Hancock's front.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The whole number of prisoners received to-day is 287, of whom 14 are officers, viz, from Second Corps, 225; Fifth Corps, 24; Ninth Corps, 38. None are in from General W. F. Smith, who is understood to have some. Their examination shows that to-day Ewell held their left, Longstreet next, Breckinridge next, with a new division of four brigades on their right, and that the greater part of A. P. Hill's corps was in reserve near the right. A rebel

officer, formerly from Philadelphia and known to Colonel Collis, in a conversation with him confirmed this disposition of their troops, and says that it was understood that Lee would attack us here. In reply to your inquiries we suppose that Pickett added to General Lee's strength from 7,000 to 8,000 men; Breckinridge from 3,000 to 4,000 men. We know of Beauregard's having twelve brigades in front of General Butler, of which the four spoken of above as making the division in the enemy's right to-day are a part. One of them, Martin's (North Carolina) brigade is estimated by us from examination to be 3,500 strong. The other brigades making that division are Hagood's (South Carolina), Evans' (South Carolina), and Clingman's (North Carolina).

The deserter from the rebel signal corps spoke of the cessation of all business in Richmond; of the closing of stores, shops, schools, and the Government departments, that all the men might be spared. He says that heavy guns were sent out of the city on Monday, whether to the works or to General Lee, he does not know; that some large ware and store houses along the canal are believed to hold the Government reserve supplies of bacon. Knows of none of flour, but thinks there must be such; that during General Butler's holding the Petersburg railroad rations were at times omitted, but since they have possession of the railroad again rations are regular and a little larger than before May 4. He thinks the Government ordnance stores are also in buildings along the canal; does not know whether the Tredegar works are closed or not. Government declines to pay any but sick and wounded soldiers in the new currency, in which he knows that on Monday flour was sold at $250 per barrel.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Surg. T. A. MCPARLIN, U. S. Army,
Medical Director, Army of the Potomac:

Telegram received. We have record of 1,276 wounded received in our corps hospital to-day. We sent away 768 in three ambulances and eighty-five army wagons, which were all we had at our disposal. We have 704 wounded and 189 sick still in hospital. Our number of wounded will be still further increased by the action to-night; how many cannot be told at this hour. The chief quartermaster of corps reports that all the empty wagons at his disposal were sent away to-day loaded with our wounded. He estimates that perhaps a dozen ammunition wagons will be empty to-night. We have 144 ambulances present; their horses pretty well worn out with hard work.

A. N. DOUGHERTY,
Surgeon, U. S. Army, Medical Director, Second Corps.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—1.30 p. m.

For the present all further offensive operations will be suspended. Corps commanders will at once intrench the positions they now

hold, including their advanced positions, and will cause reconnaissances to be made with a view to moving against the enemy's works by regular approaches from the advanced positions now held. Should the enemy assume the offensive and succeed in breaking through any point of our line, the corps commanders nearest to the assaulted point will throw their whole force upon the enemy's column making the attack.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—6.30 p. m.

The commanding general directs you to report the condition of affairs in your front, and what it is practicable to do to-morrow. Acknowledge receipt.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(To corps commanders.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 151. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The troops recently brought to this army under the command of Colonel Cesnola, Fourth New York Cavalry, are distributed as follows: The mounted cavalry to the Cavalry Corps; the dismounted cavalry to the command of Colonel Gould, with the general supply trains near Anderson's; the Fifty-seventh New York Volunteers will rejoin the Second Army Corps; the provisional brigade of infantry, under command of Colonel Cavins, and the detachments of uniformed stragglers will be sent to-night via Old Church to the provost-marshal-general at these headquarters for distribution. The led horses with the command will be turned over to the Cavalry Corps.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—6.30 a. m.

General MEADE:

Colonel Smyth, of General Gibbon's command, is making another attempt to carry the enemy's works in his front. General Barlow's line supports him.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 3, 1864—6.45 a. m.

General MEADE:

General Gibbon is making temporary intrenchments to try and hold his advanced position, but expresses the opinion that it is not tenable. The result of my attack thus far is the capture of from 300 to 400 prisoners and one color. The enemy's line was carried in one or two points, but not held. Colonel Brooke and General Tyler are wounded, and Colonel Morris, Sixty-sixth New York, and Colonel Haskell, Thirty-sixth Wisconsin, killed.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your telegram of 6.45 received. You report General Gibbon about intrenching in his advanced position. Am I to infer an assault has been made and failed, or that you do not contemplate assaulting again till the question of Gibbon's capacity to hold his position is settled? I ask for information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

JUNE 3, 1864—7.40 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

No orders have been sent you suspending or rescinding the original order to attack. I received your dispatch announcing the withdrawal of Barlow and that Gibbon supported by Barlow was about to attack. I send you the telegram received and my reply. I have not heard since that Gibbon's attack has been made, and when your dispatch came reporting Gibbon was intrenching, I asked if he had assaulted. I desire every effort be made to carry the enemy's works. Of course if this is deemed impracticable, after trial, the attack should be suspended, but the responsibility for this must be on your judgment. I cannot give more decided orders. Report promptly.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—8.25 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch of 7.40 a. m. is received. I did not mean by Colonel Smyth, of General Gibbon's division, assaulting, that General Gibbon had not already assaulted. He had done so at the hour appointed, as had also General Barlow. The enemy's works (part of them) were taken, but it appears, owing to the enfilading fire of artillery, that they could not be held, or else that the supports of the divisions were not brought up at the proper time. General Gibbon has reported to me that Colonel Smyth has not yet made the second assault [*sic*], owing to a battery on his right, which en-

filades a little ravine between him and the enemy. The important assault was made at the hour ordered—4.30 a. m. General Barlow and General Gibbon are now trying to plant batteries, for which unfortunately we have no good positions, in order to prevent this enfilading fire. If the guns on the left can be silenced, General Barlow will reassault, and I have directed General Gibbon to let me know what he requires additional to do the same. Our troops hold advanced ground—only awaiting the decision of the question whether any additional assaults are wise. I will let you know soon what is my judgment. I consider that the assault failed long since, but I volunteered the statement that we would cling to the advanced positions gained, so that, if any successes were gained by other corps on our right, we would feel ready to try it again, as we would feel that additional chances had arisen. Now if these batteries referred to on my right or left, or both, can be silenced, we will assault again.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—8.45 a. m. (Received 9 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

I send you two notes* from Wright, who thinks he can carry the enemy's main line if he is relieved by attacks of the Second and Eighteenth Corps; also, that he is under the impression he is in advance of you. It is of the greatest importance no effort should be spared to succeed. Wright and Smith are both going to try again, and unless you consider it hopeless I would like you do the same.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: Some of my dispatches cannot have reached. I have assaulted the enemy's line vigorously, broke it in one or two places, and held temporarily four guns and captured several hundred prisoners, and was then driven out. My line retired but a very short distance, and attempts were made to retake the works—thus far without success. General Gibbon is simply making dispositions to hold the ground he has gained, until some orders are received. General Barlow is waiting the same way. An assault can be promptly repeated if desired, but division commanders do not speak encouragingly of the prospect of success since the original attacks failed. Unless success has been gained in other points, I do not advise persistence here.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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*See Wright to Humphreys, 7.45 a. m. and 8 a. m., pp. 544, 545.

SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

General MEADE:

A battery of the enemy on my extreme left so enfilades my lines as to prevent my formation for another attack until it can be silenced. I am trying to get artillery in position now to effect this, and will then try another assault on General Barlow's front. He thinks if the battery is silenced he may be able to carry their line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you send General Birney with his division immediately to report to General Warren. General Birney should move to General Warren by way of Woody's. A guide is sent to conduct him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 3, 1864—10.30 [a. m.].

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: A prisoner reports that Breckinridge's command lost the pits in my front, and it was part of Hill's corps (troops recently assigned) which retook them. I am engaged in cutting roads to and putting batteries in positions with the hope of silencing the guns that have so destructive a fire on my left. I will let you know very soon whether I will make another attack. As yet I do not get much encouragement from commanders to hope for a successful issue to an attack.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: There are some indications that the enemy are arranging to retire from that part of their line in my front. They are seen at work about 1,200 yards distant, constructing apparently a redoubt and throwing up rifle-pits. If they retire to a new line on my left they would uncover the Dispatch Station road. They are certainly busily engaged at work some distance in rear of the line they now hold. I hope so to command their position to-morrow morning as to force them back if they still hold their present line.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

I send you a flag captured by the First Division.

SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

General HANCOCK or
General MEADE:

From an examination of the map with Colonel Tidball, I think there is no doubt that we do not hold the Dispatch Station road. Our picket-line going to the saw-mill does not follow the road, but runs in rear of it. I am having a sketch made for General Meade.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—12.45 [p. m.].

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I send you the reports just received from the two division commanders who assaulted this morning.

I have neglected to speak before of that part of your dispatches of this morning where you say Wright thinks he is farther advanced than I am. His staff officers tell me he is within 250 yards. My men are within 50, in front of the two points carried this morning.

The inclosed reports express my views. If General Barlow accomplishes anything with the Coehorn mortars I shall be gratified, as I do not anticipate much. I do not think the chances of success good enough to warrant further attack here. My loss has already been pretty heavy, and I am losing men all the time, owing to the exposed condition of my men and constant skirmishing resulting from it. Part of my men cannot be withdrawn by daylight. Since Birney's division has been withdrawn I do not know that I am expected to attack, as the whole of the First and Second Divisions are now engaged or are so situated that they cannot be put in reserve. I think we would have held the works this morning except for the brigade commander. Colonel Brooke, being wounded, his successor did not pay the immediate attention necessary to prepare for the enemy's attack.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 3, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER:

COLONEL: Birney being gone, I do not think it wise to attack, though I had made up my mind to try it again before I received the last communication from the major-general commanding. I have sent for mortars, which I think can be used with effect at the angle where we are nearest the enemy. I think this angle a very important point, and if we should be able to take it we should have control of the enemy's line. If we should shell the enemy vigorously with the mortars we might charge into the work. I have moved a brigade to the left to supply, to some extent, the place of General Birney.

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 3, 1864.

Col. F. A. WALKER, *Adjutant-General, Second Corps:*

COLONEL: In answer to your communication requesting to know what it is practicable to do in my front to-morrow, I have the honor to report that I regard any further assault on the enemy's works in my front as inadvisable. In the assault to-day we lost heavily, including some of our very best officers, who did everything that gallantry could do, and failed to carry the works. The only way to make any farther headway in my front now is by regular approaches, which would probably enable us to put up batteries which would compel them to abandon their front line, only, however, I presume, to fall back upon others in the rear. This, of course, will be a work of time.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

SECOND CORPS, *June* 3, 1864—8 p. m.

General MEADE:

GENERAL: The enemy attacked Colonel Smyth's brigade, Second Division, but were repulsed. The lines are so close that I anticipate attempts of the kind. I should feel more secure if I had some reserve to check any temporary success of the enemy.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

P. S.—The firing still continues at intervals. I have one brigade covering my left flank, which I have withdrawn for a reserve.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The following is an extract from the report of the medical director of this corps of the casualties during to-day's operations:

Our loss to-day, so far as I can estimate, has been in wounded 1,500, to which the usual ratio of killed will add about 300.

This does not include the missing, and I think is too low an estimate. A good many wounded men are between our line and that of the enemy. They will be brought off to-night. The enemy also attempted an attack on General Barlow's front at the same time that they assaulted General Gibbon. They came up close to our breastworks, but were driven back. Some prisoners are now coming in.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

One lieutenant and 2 men of Forty-second North Carolina Volunteers have just been taken prisoners. They are not certain, but say

they understand they belong to Ewell's corps. General Martin is brigade commander. Colonel McKeen, commanding brigade in Second Division, is mortally wounded. This is four brigade commanders disabled to-day.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

It will be necessary to leave Birney in his present position to-night and to-morrow unless you absolutely require him, when he will be sent to you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 3, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move with your division at once to the position of the Fifth Corps and report in person on your arrival to Major-General Warren. A guide has been sent to you from headquarters of the army. The battalion of Tannatt's brigade, which is in front of the rifle-pits with Colonel Smyth, commanding brigade, Second Division, cannot be removed just now. As soon as possible it will be sent to you.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—11.55 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY, *Comdg. Third Div., Second Corps:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the corps directs me to say that he ordered one battalion of Colonel Tannatt's command to remain in its position when your division moved, but that he found that Colonel Tannatt's entire command was moving away. The general directed one battalion to return and take up its old position. The commander of it has been directed to report to General Gibbon.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. G. MITCHELL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

P. S.—The battalion will be relieved as soon as possible, but it now occupies a point which cannot be left without troops.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June [3], 1864—12 m.

Major-General BIRNEY, *Comdg. Division, Second Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you mass your division just beyond Woody's house, and report to these headquarters when you are massed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Division:

The order directing you to mass beyond the Woody house and report the fact of being massed to these headquarters is rescinded. You will report to General Warren, as originally ordered.

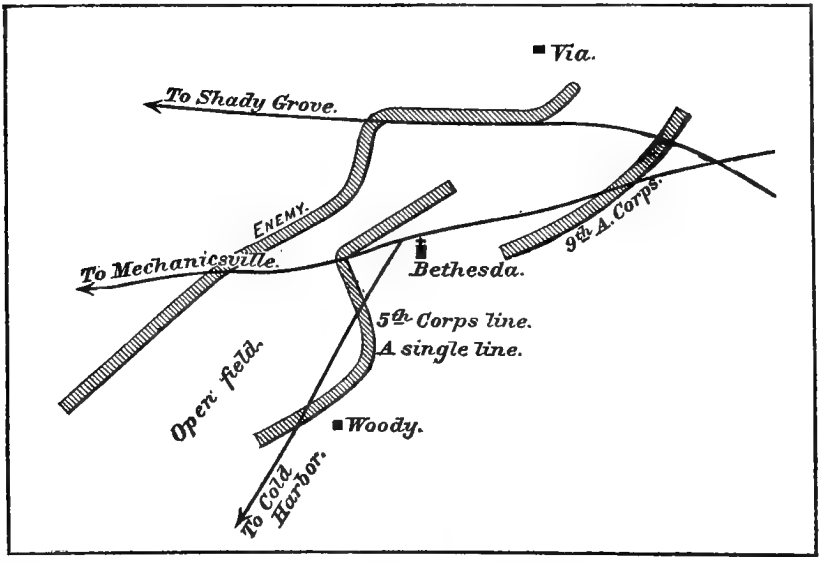
A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June [3], 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I have got a prisoner from Ewell's corps, who says the corps is in front of my right, and holding where we were yesterday. I began to find out the position of the enemy as soon as we could see. The movement of our trains last night to meet my preparation to take the new position directed and the change made by the attack of the enemy caused so much confusion in them that I could not get up ammunition till this morning. The enemy seems to show a disposition to [attack] on my right where it is thrown back. General Burnside has been moving since daylight, so as to get, I believe, around on the enemy's left on the Shady Grove road from Linney's. He has not made any attack yet, but is about to. On the next page you can see my position sketched.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.



I cannot well advance unless those on my right or left succeed in doing so. In spite of all my efforts, I am unable to shorten my line yet so as to get any reserve beside the single line of battle. There is not a point I can give up unless it is from my left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—7.20 a. m.

General MEADE:

I am informed by General Burnside that he has taken a prisoner from Hill's corps, on my right. I have 2 from Johnson's and 1 from Rodes' division. General Burnside, I believe, is forcing in the enemy's left. I hear of the enemy's troops moving to our left. The enemy's cannon throw shot into Bethesda Church from around nearly [in a] semicircle, but do not do much harm. Prisoners all state that we have at least part of Ewell's and Hill's corps here.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—8 a. m.

General MEADE:

General Crawford has just sent me in 2 prisoners taken on the picket-line in his front belonging to Field's division, of Longstreet's corps. They say their main line is along the main road, as I understand them, just west of Gaines' mill-pond and creek running south. General Burnside with one battery has driven the enemy off the Shady Grove road on their left, and we are preparing to swing our line so as to press them back. Our line has been very extended, reaching very near to the Via house.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS AMMUNITION TRAIN,
June 3, 1864.

Captain MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have moved the ammunition train this morning 1 mile east of Cold Harbor. The road from here to our corps is almost impassable. If you expect to use it much, there is about 400 yards that should be well repaired. Before moving the train the enemy gave us a shell which exploded and burned one wagon.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. T. HOUDEN,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I am instructed to inform you of the condition of things in Smith's, Wright's, and Hancock's fronts, and to say that the commanding general should be informed of what has transpired in your front.

Generals Hancock, Wright, and Smith have taken the advanced rifle-pits of the enemy, and are directed to continue their assaults, which they are now doing. Barlow's division got possession of the enemy's main line, but did not maintain himself there.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch of 6 a. m. is just received. The commanding general directs me to say that you must not wait for simultaneous attacks, but push forward your assaults.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Bethesda Church, June 3, 1864—9 a. m.

General MEADE:

We have forced the enemy back still farther on the road to Shady Grove, but I have all my troops in one line. I cannot maintain the battle this way all day without re-enforcements. Can I withdraw them, if necessary, from my own left without jeopardizing the operations to the left of me? I have no way of judging of the force of the enemy except by the extent of his front, which is very great, and by the prisoners we have taken, which are from all three of Lee's old corps. They probably have not all the force this last would indicate. The right of my corps is now over on the Shady Grove road, and General Burnside is preparing to move down the road toward Mechanicsville, toward the position he left yesterday.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General MEADE:

I have written you every little while, and sent to you the substance of General Burnside's and my operations. We have been fighting hard on our right, and are getting the enemy back, which will eventually shorten our lines and make more troops available for assault. While we attacked from our right, the enemy assaulted my right center, but were repulsed. I am not waiting for anybody, but putting in whenever I can judiciously.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch of 8 a. m. is received. The major-general commanding is gratified at hearing of your success, and directs me to say we are pushing on here, and that he desires you to do the same as long as there is any chance of success.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch [9. a. m.] per Lieutenant Warren received. It will not do to draw in your left. Smith, who is attacking, is seriously checked by an enfilade from his right, which would be relieved by an advance of your left. Your movement, as far as you can control it, should be toward the left or southeasterly, keeping up a connection and co-operating with Smith. There are no re-enforcements to send you, all the corps here being fully engaged endeavoring to break through the enemy's line, as yet without success, but not without hope of ultimate success.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Birney's division, of the Second Corps, is ordered to move up to your support immediately. The commanding general suggests that you put General Birney in on your left. He will move up to you by the Woody house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

JUNE 3, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The officer in charge of pickets near the Mechanicsville road reports the enemy moving off in force to our left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—11.20 a. m.

General MEADE:

I will have General Birney take position on the left of my line, but I do not believe our troops can carry the enemy's works there. We

have a chance I think on our extreme right to finish up the enemy there, and General Burnside is preparing to attack with his whole corps. He has been as anxious to have me extend to the right as your orders are imperative to keep closed to the left. If General Burnside's attack succeeds, as I think it will, I having a brigade and some batteries assisting, then our whole right will be free again and I can close to the left. General Wilson's cavalry will also co-operate from the neighborhood of the Norman house, north of the Totopotomoy. Cesnola's command has come up and been put in a position to cover our right, in case of reverse. It is composed of odds and ends, and now is about 2,000 strong, under command of Colonel Cavins, of the Second Corps. I do not think it would be advisable to attack with these troops till they are assigned to their proper commands. Colonel Cesnola has joined Wilson's cavalry. General Burnside expects to make his attack about 12.30. If this succeeds, we will be able to strengthen toward the left. At present I am so extended that I must break connection with somebody if I assault.

G. K. WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: The telegraph line is now being run out to the Woody house, as requested by you, and the party will be prepared to extend the line nearer to you, if it can be done with safety in that direction; and if it can be so extended, will you please cause the construction party at Woody's house to be notified where they will find your headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 3, 1864—12 m.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Birney has been ordered to mass his division just beyond the Woody house, and to report the fact of their being massed to these headquarters, and to say that General Birney's division may be required later in the day to assault on the front where General Smith now is.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The order directing General Birney to mass near Woody's house and report the fact here, is rescinded. He is ordered to report to you, as originally ordered.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I am in position connecting your left with General Smith's right. I have relieved a portion of General Smith's troops, and straightened the line by advancing it, taking advantage of an excellent ridge. I have massed a brigade in rear of Crawford's left, and can hold the line. I will throw out a strong picket, relieving General Smith, and intrench at dusk. I have received from corps headquarters a copy of order from army headquarters as to offensive operations.

Your obedient servant,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—3.15 p. m.

General MEADE:

Just as we were about ready to attack the enemy on our right he made a vigorous attack there upon us, which, so far has been repulsed. If any part of the army's lines will admit of being weakened, I think it would be well to relieve me of a portion of that I now hold, as I have only a single line, and much of it is in woods, so that I cannot use artillery nor see what may be preparing for us. If any part of my line should be broken I fear I could not restore it. If we remain in position the enemy may learn my weakness through captures on my skirmish line, and prepare an attack that I cannot withstand.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

What is the condition of affairs in your front? Was the attack at 12.30 made as proposed?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to Burnside.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch of 3.15 p. m., per Lieutenant Rosencrantz, received. Birney's division, 8,000 men, was sent to re-enforce you. He is all the reserve and re-enforcements I have at my disposal. Where have you posted Birney, and does not his arrival enable you to concentrate?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I posted General Birney on my left, where you directed. He has taken up a good position, and besides relieving some of General Smith's line has a brigade in reserve. If I am at liberty to call upon him, I think I shall have no trouble to hold my own; my center is at a salient, where I cannot well advance it; my right is close up to the enemy; my left can be advanced to-night, but it will bring me in an open field, and where it might be difficult to withdraw from in the daytime, or even in the night, without the enemy knowing it. It will also require some advance of General Smith.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864. (Received 6.15 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: Major-General Meade is anxiously waiting for an answer to his dispatch.*

Very respectfully,

J. D. FLYNN,
Operator.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Birney must return to his corps to-night. He proposes to withdraw General Burnside and put him in Birney's place, between you and General Smith. Before giving the orders he desires to submit the matter to you. Please reply at once. Bethesda Church will be far enough to the right to occupy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—8.40 p. m.

Lieut. G. L. GILLESPIE, U. S. Engineers,
Fifth Corps:

By orders of General Meade, a company of the battalion will be sent to you at once to the headquarters Fifth Corps. You will report to General Warren for instructions. Send the company back to headquarters as soon as you get through with it.

CHARLES N. TURNBULL,
Captain of Engineers.

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*Probably that of 4.10 p. m., to which no answer is found.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—11 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you order the Forty-sixth Regiment of New York Volunteers to report at once to Major-General Burnside, commanding Ninth Corps. It appears that this regiment was destined by the War Department for the Ninth Corps.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

1. In compliance with orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Volunteers is relieved from duty with the Third Brigade, First Division, Fifth Corps, and will report at once for duty to Major-General Burnside, commanding Ninth Corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—4 a. m.

GENERAL: The major-general commanding wishes you to open on the enemy with every gun that you can bring to bear, and push your skirmish line out as far as possible and press the enemy at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 3, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: Heavy skirmishing in my front, but nothing more. I have crowded the skirmish line of the enemy all day, and have taken his advanced pits with the prisoners already sent in. On my left I am as close as I can get without advancing my line of battle and exposing my skirmishers to the fire of the enemy's batteries. The prisoners report that orders were received this morning by them to hold their position at all hazards, unless our line of battle advanced. My left is protected by a battery, but there is an interval of nearly three-fourths of a mile between my flank and the Eighteenth Corps. I have a heavy skirmish line connecting with that corps, and in place of my line I have rifle-pits dug to throw in my reserve brigade. If you have no further use for Lyle's brigade, I would be glad to send them again to my left. I have been threatening the force in my

front by advancing my skirmishers all day. This will account for the firing you may hear in my front. I think, if you approve, that it would be as well to have Lyle's brigade back before sundown. Pickett's troops, now partially in my front, are not experienced troops; but a citizen here informs me that there are two companies with him from this vicinity that know every by-path. The person giving the information has two sons with Pickett. Ewell joins him at his left, about my center.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—My field officer of the day has just reported to me that General Mott has come up with instructions to fill up the gap between my left and Smith.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Will you ask the commanding general if he will authorize the immediate muster of the officers appointed to positions in the new regiments formed from the old Reserves? It is absolutely necessary in order that they may receipt for property and assume the duties of their office. I have partial lists now ready. Will you also inform me what designation will be given to these regiments?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The major-general commanding has entirely misapprehended my message by Captain Cadwalader. I am in advance of everything else. If I advance my right farther, without a corresponding advance by the Eighteenth Corps, I am, from the form of the enemy's lines, taken in flank and reverse. My left cannot well be advanced for the same reason; but I have pushed forward my center, supporting it by the divisions on the right and left; the extreme flanks of those divisions to wait for a movement of the corps on their right and left. I think I can carry the enemy's main line opposite my center, and have ordered the attack, but, as before stated, my flanks cannot move without a corresponding movement of the corps on my right and left. My losses will show that there has been no hanging back on the part of the Sixth Corps, which has so far moved very satisfactorily. I may be pardoned for suggesting that the important attack for our success is by the Eighteenth Corps. This is undoubted, unless I misapprehend the enemy's position.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Since my last dispatch I have received reports, both from right [and left]. As stated, I am a good deal in advance of both the Second and Eighteenth Corps, and the reason why General Smith thinks that I am not moving with him is that he is behind me. This is further proved by the fact that the enemy is enfilading my lines from my left, and the enemy's artillery is firing down my lines and on both sides of my present headquarters. My troops will advance throughout my line with the troops on my right and left, and independently of either, if possible.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I just learn from General Smith, commanding Eighteenth Corps, that he has but four regiments with which to support an assault on my right. I deem this altogether an insufficient protection, in view of the position of the enemy's lines in relation to my own, and have sent to him for his opinion, he knowing his front better than myself. I have also requested him to state whether he can or not maintain, in connection with me, the advanced position we now hold. His answer will be sent to you at once. If he can't advance, I think any forward movement on my part would be unsuccessful, as I am directly in front, from 100 to 200 yards distance, of the strongly intrenched lines of the enemy. I have ordered that my advanced position be held till further orders, and will intrench it, waiting further instructions.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

In reply to circular of 6.30 p. m. I have the honor to report that my first line is at distances from the enemy's works varying from 50 to 150 or 200 yards, and that a considerable part of my front is already partially intrenched. The remainder cannot be undertaken till after dark, as it is quite impossible to work under the enemy's fire. I shall endeavor to work up still nearer to the enemy to-night on certain parts of the line, with what success remains to be determined. Where the rebel works can be distinctly seen they are very strong, and are presumed to be so on the parts concealed. It is so difficult getting along our front line before it is fully intrenched that anything like a correct reconnaissance cannot be made, and I cannot, therefore, say with any certainty what it is practicable to do to-morrow. In my judgment the line should be carefully examined

before coming to any determination, and I would suggest that the engineer officers be instructed to make it. In reply to a call for the opinions of division commanders as to the probable success of an assault on their fronts, one reported decidedly against it, another had hopes of success if properly supported on his right and left, and the third thought it might succeed. The result of an attack would, in my judgment, be doubtful, and I should wish that the examination alluded to should be first made.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864—10.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Soon after the attack on General Hancock's lines this evening the enemy attacked the left of Russell's division, but was readily repulsed. Since then all has been quiet. My entire line is now pretty well intrenched.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Division commanders are hereby requested to forward to these headquarters as soon as possible their written opinion as to the probable success of an assault upon the enemy's works in their front, provided their flanks are well supported by other corps.

By command of Major-General Wright:

C. H. WHITTELSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: At 6 o'clock I crossed two regiments on the road from Haw's Store to Bethesda, and drove a brigade of Heth's division from the rifle-pits around Via's house. Having held the works and house about one hour, and failing to establish communication, I thought it more prudent to retire. My men report the enemy moving in heavy column in the direction of Shady Grove. I shall retire to a convenient place, covering the road from Haw's Store to Linney's, and hold from there round to the river. In case, however, your infantry occupy Via's house, I will move a force to Haw's Shop and hold the line from there to Hanovertown. Please advise me.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Bethesda Church, June 3, 1864—7.35 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: We have carried the first line of the enemy's works, and are now reforming the line, with a view to assaulting the main line. The resistance is very determined. We have taken prisoners from both Hill's and Ewell's corps, but it is possible that they have but one or two divisions from each corps. The prisoners are from one of Hill's and two of Ewell's. Our loss has been considerable. The loss of the enemy in the attack of last night was very great, at least it is so represented by prisoners. There are indications that the enemy are moving to our left—not definite.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Bethesda Church, June 3, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Our right has communicated with Wilson's division of cavalry. General Potter's division has carried two lines of rifle-pits, and is now in them, close to the main line. We will make an effort to take this line. We hold across the Shady Grove road on our right, and shall make an effort to cut their line just opposite this place. The enemy is very strong in our front.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding desires to learn the condition of things in your front. Generals Hancock, Wright, and Smith have each taken some of the advanced rifle-pits of the enemy, and are continuing their assaults upon their works. General Barlow got temporary possession of the main line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch of 7.35 a. m. is received. The major-general commanding is glad to hear of your success, and directs me to say that we are pushing on here, and that he desires you to do the same as long as there is any chance for success.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general directs me to say that in pushing forward upon the enemy you endeavor to direct your attacks so as to move toward the left, southeasterly, and push the enemy in that direction, keeping closed upon Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

General Wilson is ordered to aid your attacks by moving so as to come in the rear of the left of the enemy and attacking them.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Bethesda Church, Va., June 3, 1864—11.05 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Your dispatches of 10 and 10.15 a. m. received. I had already communicated with General Wilson and requested him to move up in rear of the position now occupied by the enemy, which he is doing. We are placing some batteries in position, and will soon make an attack, which I hope will be productive of good results. Your direction to keep close connection with General Warren will be observed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Griffin is ready to do what he can with Sweitzer's brigade and his batteries. Colonel Sweitzer reports the enemy moving to our left. This confirms my opinion that they are not strong where you propose to attack, and are withdrawing.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Bethesda Church, June 3, 1864—3.35 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: There has been quite a severe attack upon Potter's division within the last hour, but it was repulsed, and all is now quiet. If they will give us time to fortify we hope to be able to hold on. All has been quiet this afternoon in front of Warren. Just as we received the order to suspend offensive operations we had

our columns of attack formed, but I think it was fortunate we were not allowed to advance. Our loss to-day has been quite heavy, particularly in officers.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—5 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

After the attack of this morning, by which we carried the first line, our men were very close to the main line of the enemy's works, and it was very difficult to organize columns of attack, which caused much delay; and just as we were ready to attack the order came suspending offensive operations. The enemy, however, made an attack on our right a few moments before, an account of which I gave by the return of Captain Rosencrantz. Everything is now quiet in our front, but we are too close upon the enemy to intrench before dark. Our line on the right is a single one, but if the enemy give us an opportunity to intrench, we hope to hold it.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—5.40 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch of 5 p. m. is received. The commanding general desires to know whether you cannot contract your lines. There are no re-enforcements from any part of the army that can be sent you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—7 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

If you have any messages for General Wilson I will send them to him if you telegraph them here.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

We have nothing at present to send to General Wilson. It will not be necessary for the messenger to wait at your headquarters for dispatches from here.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* In answer to Meade's dispatch of 4.10 p. m. See p. 541.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The following dispatch just received from Colonel Cesnola, commanding:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
Across Totopotomoy, on road to Bethesda—6.16 p. m.

Colonel CESNOLA:

General Wilson desires you to inform Major-General Burnside that we have attacked the enemy in his rear, taken his works in front of us, and captured many prisoners. The prisoners are from Hill's corps. They report that Hill has the extreme left.

SCHERT,
Lieutenant.

Please send me the result of affairs on left this evening.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

It will be necessary that the command of Colonel Cavins, now on your right, should be sent via Old Church to the provost-marshal-general at these headquarters for distribution. I desire that the following order* be at once sent to Colonel Cavins. General Warren will tell you of the proposed movement to-morrow night and your part in it. I wish you to send staff officers over the route you are to take to learn all about the road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—10.25 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I am anxious to know the result of the fighting on the left this evening, as I am about to communicate with General Wilson.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch received. There has been no material change in the left since this morning.

Please communicate the following dispatch† to General Wilson.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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*See Special Orders, No. 151, p. 529.

†See Humphreys to Wilson, 10.15 p. m., p. 562.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, June 3, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I understand that General Willcox will not be ready to attack until after 1 p. m. I should like to be advised of the exact time of the attack. I think I can withdraw some infantry from two brigades of Cesnola, which lies to my right and rear. In that case I will put in the whole of Griffin's brigade to attack to the right, and make as strong a demonstration with Curtin as possible, and take advantage of any opportunity that may offer. I regret to say that the losses in my First Brigade are reported as heavier than at the Wilderness, including some 20 officers. The loss in the Second Brigade is slight. I have advanced a section to the front on the right. My left does not connect with General Willcox, and it is rather a bad place. My nearest point to the enemy is just to the right of my left, where I am less than 50 yards from the enemy's work, who hold higher ground. If General Ledlie is to be withdrawn this point will be rather unsafe.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—2.25 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The Thirty-fifth Massachusetts (engineer regiment) and Twenty-ninth Massachusetts, of, I believe, the First Division, and Fifty-first New York (engineer regiment) are lying in rear doing nothing. I desire to place them on the line of intrenchments, where my batteries are, until the infantry I have asked of Cesnola gets up. The batteries are entirely unsupported, and my whole division on the front line is engaged, with no reserves.

Yours, &c.,
ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—Griffin I fear will make nothing. The enemy's works are across an open field and extend beyond his right. He does not think he can carry them.

JUNE 3, 1864.

Captain SHORKLEY,
A. A. A. G., First Brig., Third Div., Ninth Army Corps:

The enemy in the immediate front of the brigade are moving toward General Potter's front. He is moving behind his works, so covered that no guess can be given of the force. Could not a battery be brought up in rear of this line and shell them out of their works? I think the crest of the ridge to our rear would cover the guns sufficiently.

WM. HUMPHREY,
Colonel Second Michigan.

IN THE FIELD, *June* 3, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
U. S. Volunteers:

GENERAL: I am directed by Colonel Cesnola to inform you that I am in command of a provisional organization, consisting of 600 armed men of various regiments, and am posted with my left on the road about three-fourths of a mile in rear of your right, and my line extends obliquely toward the rear, covering the position of General Wilson's headquarters. Any change in your position can be communicated to me by the orderly bearing this. My command is not reliable, being stragglers and recruits.

Respectfully,

E. H. C. CAVINS,
Lieutenant-Colonel Fourteenth Indiana.

EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864—12.30 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Will you please order General Ames to report to me at once with his command.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—12.30 a. m.

General W. F. SMITH,
Headquarters Sixth Corps:

An order will at once be sent to General Ames to join you without delay.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—5.20 a. m.

Major-General SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed to furnish you the following copy of dispatch just received:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Barlow reports that he has enemy's works, with colors and guns.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Martindale got into so hot a place that he was forced to assault the works without the assistance of the column of General Brooks. The assault was made three times, and each time repulsed. While I was on the front of General Brooks the enfilading fire of the enemy was so heavy as to force me to give the order to General Brooks not to attempt to advance his column of attack until the fire was slackened. This fire being entirely on my right, I have had nothing but artillery to use against it, and have therefore been unable to silence it. My troops are very much cut up, and have no hope of being able to carry the works in my front unless a movement of the Sixth Corps on my left may relieve at least one of my flanks from this galling fire.

Respectfully,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

General Wright has been ordered to assault at once and to continue his attack without reference to your advance, and the commanding general directs that your assault be continued without reference to General Wright's. General Wright had but a very short time before the receipt of your communication, through Major West, reported that he was waiting for your advance to enable him to assault.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General SMITH:

Your note in reference to artillery ammunition received. General Hunt was and is directed to provide you all the ammunition you require, and additional batteries if you could use them. This order will be reiterated, and I beg you will call and expend as much as your judgment dictates, without regard to General Hunt's strictures. I am sorry to hear Martindale is unable to assault. I have just heard from Warren, who is forcing the enemy back on his right. I have directed him to push forward his left, in order to relieve the attack you are able to make.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Please send me two fresh batteries of rifled guns. It will save time and the danger of sending fresh men forward with ammunition. The sharpshooters trouble my batteries very much, and I am obliged to keep my batteries in the same position and at work. My last four regiments that I have got for an assault are now forming for an attack, but I dare not order it till I see more hopes of success to be gained, either by General Warren's attack or otherwise.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I was mistaken in regard to the line of the Sixth Corps. When I went to the front Colonel French, Seventy-seventh New York, said he was in the front line. I had been some 300 yards in advance of that, but I now find he was mistaken. There is one of General Wheaton's regiments (One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania) on my left which is out of ammunition.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

This note was written before receipt of General Wright's note. I have about five regiments of General Brooks' command in a condition for assault. General Martindale has been so badly cut up in his assault that he says he is no longer fit for attack. I will do whatever can be done, or attempt whatever may be ordered. I have ordered all my troops available for the new column.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

General HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The general commanding corps directs me to say that he took all the artillery required from you, and at the same time informed your aide that all the ammunition our batteries had was what was brought in their chests. Some of the batteries of the corps have been firing three days without any fresh supply. Lieutenant Tucker, the general's aide, reports to him these words from you:

Tell Captain Elder he has used up more ammunition then the rest of the line, and if he continues to fire constantly, I cannot supply him with a sufficient quantity

of ammunition. I will order a portion of Captain Elder's caissons to be filled and sent to him. Tell him to send his caissons as they are emptied to headquarters and I will try and supply him from reserve train.

Because Captain Hexamer, who had just come in, had a full supply, the general commanding thinks it should not be assumed that the batteries of his own corps were in the same condition.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: My aide reports to me that General Hunt contented himself with answering a verbal requisition for artillery ammunition by some strictures upon my extravagant use of it. I have nothing to cover the entire open space on my right but my artillery, and I have tried to keep down both the enemy's artillery and infantry fire, which enfilades my front, by artillery fire. I have a regiment so far advanced that it cannot withdraw without serious loss, and the enemy are trying to get a battery in position to enfilade this regiment. It has become, therefore, somewhat of a question as to the expenditure of ammunition or muscle. All the artillery fire has been done strictly under my orders, and has not exceeded the amount I have deemed necessary to fire away to cover my men. I regret exceedingly that the absence of my own ammunition should have forced me to make the requisition I have, and of its propriety the general commanding himself must judge.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

The note from General M. will explain itself.

ARTILLERY HDQRS., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864.

Major-General SMITH,
Eighteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I have sent you all the ammunition that could be procured from other corps near, and as rapidly as it could be sent. I have ordered up more, which I expect soon, and will give your own batteries a further supply. I have now ordered another battery of Wright's corps to you, which, if you should not require it, I would like to have returned to him. I sent yesterday to you to place as many batteries at your disposal as you required. I sent the one you desired with an extra supply of ammunition and sufficient, if that battery alone has used it, to last a much longer time. The man from the battery reported subsequently a comparatively small expenditure. I did not limit myself to strictures on your expenditures, although I did remark*: * * * nor did I make them, but took immediate measures to supply the reported wants.

H. J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

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* Omitted words not legible.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In reference to the condition of affairs in my front, I would respectfully state that I now hold and have held all that I have gained, and am intrenching myself as rapidly as possible. In reference to what it may be practicable to do to-morrow on my front, I can only say, that what I failed to do to-day—namely, to carry the enemy's works on my front by columns of assault, at the most practicable point (in my front)—I would hardly dare to recommend as practicable to-morrow with my diminished force. General Ames' column is reported quite near here, which will a little more than make good my losses of to-day.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 7 p. m. is received.* Yesterday the only quartermaster of my command, Lieutenant Cole, acting assistant quartermaster, by your direction went to Anderson's and found the entire train in motion, going toward the Chickahominy. He started as soon as he had seen you, and found the train had been moving some hours. My chief quartermaster has not reported to you, as he is by my order still at the White House, forwarding all that I left behind. I informed General Meade yesterday of the fact. Captain Van Ness, acting chief quartermaster of this corps, complains that he has been delayed by the docks being taken from him which he had put in order himself. Our stores are all probably at the White House by this time, so if your wagons report to him he will load them if our own have not arrived.

Respectfully, &c.,
WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

JUNE 3, 1864.

General BROOKS:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires me to say that General Martindale reports the enemy putting up new rifle-pits. Can you not put some sharpshooters in to stop it? Please answer by orderly.

Respectfully, &c.,
N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

*Not found.

JUNE 3, 1864.

General MARTINDALE:

The general commanding directs that you keep the line of battle on your right under cover of the crest, to guard it from enfilade fire as much as possible. Set your sharpshooters to silence batteries, if possible. Send word if this latter is possible.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

General DEVENS,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you communicate at once with General Birney on your right, and connect with him as soon as it is settled where his left will rest to-night. If necessary you will throw your right forward to do this, where you will intrench yourself. If this be not necessary, you will close to your left, provided General Birney can more than cover to your present right flank. In any case you will reserve two regiments for a reserve. Please answer as soon as possible. What tools you cannot obtain from your pioneers, you will find by sending to these headquarters.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—7 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that my headquarters are about 1 mile below Dispatch Station, and to the left of the Bottom's Bridge road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN:

I have the honor to inform you that Lieutenant-Colonel Gould, commanding dismounted cavalry with the trains, has been instructed to detail 400 men of his command to guard a party of prisoners of war to be sent to-day to the White House. The commanding general does not think it best to send all the dismounted cavalry to the White House just now, as the services of these men are required to guard the general supply train. They will, however, be sent to you as fast as horses arrive for them.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Bottom's Bridge, Va., June 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I left one regiment immediately in rear of General Hancock's left. It is encamped at the lake. The regiment covers the crossing at Sumner's Bridge and watches the Chickahominy down to and connects with our pickets at this place. I have another regiment watching Long Bridge and Jones' Bridge. This arrangement covers the left of the army and also the front of the camps at White House.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I respectfully request that a pontoon train of twelve boats (canvas) be assigned to the Cavalry Corps, the pontoniers belonging to the train to be mounted. I am of the opinion it would greatly benefit the public service, and would be of great convenience to the Cavalry Corps. This train could accompany the cavalry and would greatly facilitate its movements in the passage of the small but deep rivers of this country.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864.

This application is approved, and the train will be forwarded as soon as one can be procured. At present the train now with the army will be required generally with the infantry troops. A bridge train will, however, be provided for the cavalry should a special occasion require it.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you send a division immediately to re-enforce the division of General Wilson, which is now on the north side of the Totopotomoy between Haw's Shop and Via's house in the rear of the left flank of the enemy. As the commander of the division that you send will probably rank General Wilson, you will direct the commander to continue carrying out the instructions of General Wilson to attack the rear of the enemy's left

flank—instructions which have been so successfully executed by General Wilson. You will likewise direct the commanding officer to keep up communication with the commander of the corps on our right, at present Major-General Burnside, whose right is near the Shady Grove Church and this side of the Via house. The Via house is said to be in the possession of the enemy. With the remaining cavalry division on the left of the army the commanding general directs that you continue picketing the left flank to the Chickahominy, and also the crossings of that stream.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Lieutenant BRINKERHOFF,
Acting Aide-de-Camp, Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

LIEUTENANT: You will proceed to Linney's (2 miles west of Old Church), at which point you will find detachments of mounted men belonging to this division. These detachments and all others which you may find in the vicinity of Old Church not performing duties to which they have been assigned by proper authority you will conduct to this division at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Linney's House, June 3, 1864—1.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In pursuance to your instructions, I evacuated Hanover Court-House at 6 p. m. yesterday, and withdrew my command to this point. Cesnola, with a mixed command of infantry and cavalry, having arrived at my lines this afternoon, I assumed command of his forces also, and moved them with my own. The head of my column arrived here at 12.30 a. m. It will be daylight before the troops are all in and encamped. As soon as I have informed myself of the whereabouts of the right wing of the army I shall post my troops with the view of covering the country between it and Pamunkey River.

I send this communication by Captain Gloskoski, of my staff, who will inform you more minutely of the situation of my command.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Linney's House, June 3, 1864—8.10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your order to hold Haw's Shop and Hanovertown, and attack the enemy in rear, dated 5.45 this morning, was received

at 7.10. My entire division is on the road between this house and the right of General Burnside, covering the road from Shady Grove. General B. has just sent me word that the enemy were trying to turn him by that flank, and requesting me to watch and help him. Colonel Cesnola's command has been marching all night, all day yesterday, and is still on the road between here and Hanovertown; therefore in no very good condition. He has only about 1,400 infantry that are efficient, 1,200 or 1,500 disarmed stragglers, an indifferent force of dismounted cavalry regiments, and about 1,000 good cavalry. I thought it best to try and get the infantry here and move it to the right of Burnside; then relieve my cavalry force, and move it toward Haw's Shop and Hanovertown, thus completing the circuit to the river. I received no order by Captain Adams indicating a desire to have me attack by Haw's Shop. Captain Gloskoski brought me the first intimation of this, and from the context I am unable to determine whether to construe it as an order to attack or not to attack. To go now by Haw's would require a circuit of 7 miles. Shall I go, or perfect the arrangement indicated in the first part of this communication?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Linney's, June 3, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I am collecting Cesnola's stragglers, originally sent to Belle Plain, to be ordered back to their regiments. Shall I send them to General Patrick? Cesnola has also about 600 horses from General Torbert. I shall send them to corps headquarters at once. I have directed Colonel Cesnola to report by letter.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Linney's, June 3, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have put Cesnola's infantry in position, on Burnside's right, at a place designated by Warren's engineer. His stragglers are sent to Burnside's provost-marshal for distribution. His cavalry is massed here. I move at once across the Totopotomoy on the Haw's Store road, and shall attack with all my force. Picket at Hanovertown.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

Please send Cesnola orders, as he will be out of my reach.

J. H. W.

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near Salem Church, June 3, 1864—1.12 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your last communication, by Captain Gloskoski, was received at 12.15 p. m. at this point (Norman's) just as our skirmishers were going into action. We have developed a considerable force at or near Haw's Shop, with artillery in position. A patrol toward Mrs. Via's, as far as the creek, met no enemy. I am pushing forward now, the enemy having been repulsed in three or four sharp dashes at our skirmish line. I hear nothing toward Burnside's front. I left Cesnola's entire force on Burnside's right, connecting with it and extending toward the Totopotomoy. The force at Hanovertown report no enemy.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

P. S.—From some prisoners we have taken I hear that it is Gordon's old brigade in front of us.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Salem Chapel, June 3, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

We have driven the enemy from the rifle-pits in this vicinity, having lost several of our most valuable officers—Lieutenant-Colonel Preston and Captain Cushman, [First] Vermont Cavalry, killed; Colonel Benjamin, Eighth New York, severely wounded. The enemy seems to have withdrawn on the road to Aenon Church, but certainly toward the fortifications originally occupied by their infantry. I am now covering with the main body of my force the road to Hanovertown and the Totopotomoy, and have sent part of a regiment to cross the creek near its head, on the road to Mrs. Via's, with instructions to ascertain the position of the enemy's infantry if possible. I do not think it would be judicious to relinquish this position for a movement with my whole force in the direction toward Bethesda. I will threaten it.

J. H. WILSON.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Bethesda Church, June 3, 1864.

General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: Your notes received in due time and would have been answered sooner but I hoped by waiting to give you a more definite answer in reference to the probability of occupying the Via house, or some point in advance, but I find I shall not be able to determine anything until morning, and therefore return the orderlies. I also

inclose an order received from General Meade this morning, for your information in case you have not received a copy. We took considerable ground from the enemy yesterday and hold it all. Our line now extends across the Shady Grove Church road, near the Via house. Please let me hear from you in the morning.

Yours, truly,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

The commanding general is gratified at the intelligence of your very successful execution of the orders to attack the rear of the enemy's left flank. It is important that the operation should be continued with increased force, and Major-General Sheridan, commanding Cavalry Corps, has been instructed to order up immediately another division to re-enforce yours. Should the commander of that division rank you he will, of course, assume command of both divisions, and you will in that event acquaint him with your instructions and all the information you have obtained in connection with the operations you have been carrying on. You will not, of course, delay any attack you may intend to make until the re-enforcements join you if you feel strong enough to make it without them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Forks of Hanovertown and Salem Church Road,
June 3, 1864—11 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

After ridding my front of the enemy, I am driving him in the direction of Aenon Church, and I attacked his left and rear on the road from Salem Church to Via's house, threw two regiments over the river on bridge near Via's, who soon became engaged with a brigade of three regiments of Heth's division. They were driven handsomely out of their rifle-pits, which we held for an hour. Failing to establish communication with the infantry on my left, I withdrew to the side of the Totopotomoy, putting my command as follows: First Brigade, with Ransom's battery, near Haw's Shop, picketing south and northward; Second Brigade, with French's battery, on the road from Hanovertown to Linney's, with one regiment at Hanovertown. In taking the enemy's works, we captured some prisoners, who report that Hill is on the extreme left of this army.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. P. BRINTON,
Commanding Eighteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry:

COLONEL: The colonel commanding desires you to keep a strong picket on Shady Grove Church road, well thrown out. It is necessary that we should hold that road, and, if need be, your whole regiment must be put on it. Communicate immediately anything that may transpire on that road.

I remain, colonel, very respectfully,

[EDMUND BLUNT, JR.,]
Lieut. and Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—12.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding, &c., White House:

GENERAL: By authority of Lieutenant-General Grant the commanding general directs that Brigadier-General Ames and his command join the Eighteenth Army Corps near Cold Harbor forthwith.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, June 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: We have a locomotive here and a construction corps under Major Wentz, of the engineers, who says the road can be finished to the Chickahominy in four days. Shall it be done? General Ames had been already ordered forward when your dispatch arrived. I did not intend keeping him longer than to-day.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

COLD HARBOR, *June* 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding Re-enforcements:

Your communication of this day received. Let Major Wentz commence at once to repair the railroad from White House to Chickahominy.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, *June* 3, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Shall I still retain the two steamers I hold ready to move, or give them up, and place my men as well as teams ashore, trusting to others that may or may not be available? General, as I have no reply from General Butler, now forty-eight hours, though he has answered several later telegrams, I presume what I sent him is all he requires. I believe there is now 1,200 feet of bridge at Washington, just arrived from New York, and have telegraphed Colonel Pettes for information. If there, would the general wish it retained there or ordered here, as I have now no pontoon bridging here?

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 3, 1864—12.30 p. m. (Received 10.15 4th.)

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

Your dispatch of May 31, stating that you have been ordered by Major-General Halleck to send to Major-General Butler all pontoon bridging arriving at Fortress Monroe, has just been received. A dispatch was sent to you yesterday, which may not have reached you, requiring you, if you have not already done so, to have taken to Fortress Monroe the bridge left at Fredericksburg and afterward sent to Port Royal.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Fort Monroe, June 3, 1864—7 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your dispatch just received, and I have called for a tug to send an officer up the York River for those bridges where I have understood and believe them to be in use as wharves. If not there the officer is directed to go up the Rappahannock, if safe to do so. My last order before leaving Belle Plain was at the request of General Abercrombie, placing them under his orders to be taken to Port Royal. Since then a dispatch from my officer received at Washington gave me to understand that they were to go to West Point. I telegraphed to Washington to order him here in case he shall have passed back to that city. Does the commanding general wish the bridging at Washington just from New York to be ordered here also?

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Yes, collect it all.

A. A. H.,
Major-General.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Farrar's Island, June 3, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

From six to a dozen steam-barges, which I suppose may be easily obtained in the Northern cities, will be of great advantage to me here, if torpedo fitted, and rifle-screens enough to protect its few apertures. I respectfully request the favorable consideration of the Department to this subject.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Farrar's Island, June 3, 1864—10 p. m.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Captain Smith reports the failure of a gallant attempt to blow up the ram Albemarle, and information from deserters that the Neuse is afloat and ready for service. I hope the Chickopee has been sent to the sounds. I will immediately dispatch the Otsego there, though much needed to keep open army and navy communication on this river. I will order the Sassacus up here in her stead.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, June 3, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Rear-Admiral LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

SIR: I beg leave to assure you in writing, as I have heretofore verbally, that the obstructions furnished you by me will in no way be any charge or cost to the Navy Department, unless it chooses voluntarily to assume the expense. I have neither doubt nor hesitation upon the subject. If the expenditure of the few thousands for these vessels will save one monitor from torpedoes or fire-raft, or the lives of 10 men I have sent to the navy, I should make it at once. You will judge of the efficiency of the obstructions. The expense has already been assumed by the army, although I cannot appreciate the difference. One treasury, one nation, one cause—all is served alike, if one is served.

Respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, June 3, 1864.

GARRETT DAVIS, Esq.,
Member of the Senate of the United States:

SIR: I have read your resolution of inquiry*. You can do me no greater favor than to have every act of my political life, which began

* See Congressional Globe, First Session, Thirty-eighth Congress, Part 3, p. 2586.

on the first Tuesday of November, 1839, and ended on the 15th day of April, 1861, most thoroughly scrutinized. I will thank you also to have every act of my official life, which began as brigadier-general of the Massachusetts militia, April 16, 1861, and will end when this war does, if not sooner, subjected to the like examination. I have no favors to ask, and but one act of justice: that the inquisition may not be *ex parte, i. e.*, one-sided.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

BERMUDA, *June* 3, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

If the sail vessels are certain of being sunk in the James River by the navy, would it not be very well to have them dismantled? The sails and rigging are very valuable, and would not probably be of much service as obstructions.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 3, 1864—9 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

Your dispatch, inclosing General Terry's, received. You are in command of the line of defenses and the entire forces I have here, save the garrisons at City Point, Spring Hill, Fort Powhatan, and Wilson's Wharf, and a portion of a colored cavalry regiment armed with pistols [which] are upon that line. You, of course, will make such disposition of the forces upon that line as you think best. You have but two small infantry regiments, Sixty-second Ohio [and] one on the entire left of your line.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

Your dispatch of 9.45 just received. I don't think Turner has any too many troops. At the same time Terry's front is the only part of the line likely to be attacked. When I get the three advanced redoubts finished, with barriers at the entrances, I shall have no apprehension of anything but the picket-line, which may be driven in if attacked in force.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

General Terry's losses yesterday amount to 159 men and 13 officers killed, wounded, and missing.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864—7.55 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

My lookout reports that the firing across James River began in a direction 15 degrees east of north, and worked westward until it ranged 5 degrees west of north, Richmond being 17 degrees west of north. At 5.30 he could distinguish musketry firing. At 4 o'clock the garrison at Chaffin's Bluff was paraded and marched off toward Richmond, about 500 men. There was also an artillery engagement in a northeasterly direction; from the lookout shells were seen to burst. A large sling-cart, drawn by 12 horses, left Dr. Howlett's this morning. The enemy are doing some work between Howlett's house and barn.

Yours,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
First Connecticut Artillery:

COLONEL: I have received your note of 17th May.* I will ask for orders for you at the earliest hour possible. I regret to say that Colonel Kellogg was killed two or three days ago—a great loss to us. I am glad your train is afloat, that but little time will be lost. The breaking up of the Reserve Artillery and the reduction of guns and ammunition trains throughout the army will, I fear, much embarrass us if we operate from our present position. I depended on the men and teams of the batteries and trains to furnish us with the requisite draught power. I fear that the Quartermaster's Department will not have the surplus means anticipated, as just the same expenditure of ammunition is made as before. Of course, the batteries consume very large amounts. I received the book and tables. Thanks. Had a severe conflict to-day in assault of the enemy's works. Have taken some of them, and our lines in some places are in talking distance of each other. Loss estimated at 5,000 or 6,000 killed and wounded.

Very truly, yours,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., June 3, 1864.

The following assignments are hereby announced, viz: Maj. Charles H. Hooper, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, to the command of the redoubt in front of Battery No. 1; Maj. Lewis Butler, Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, to the command of the redoubt in front of Battery No. 3, and Capt. W. G. Pride, First Connecticut Artillery, to the command of the redoubt in front of Battery No. 6. The above-named officers and their commands will be under the command of Brig. Gen. A. H. Terry, commanding First Division. Col.

*See Part II, p. 843.

Abbot, First Connecticut Artillery, chief of artillery, will designate the armament and artillery detail for the redoubts. The various detachments will make the usual returns to their regimental commanders. The redoubts are to be held at all hazards. Three days' rations will be kept constantly on hand, and wells will be dug to supply the garrison with water, either within or in rear of the works. No officer or man belonging to the garrison of the redoubts above named will leave the works without Brigadier-General Terry's permission. Brigadier-General Terry will keep up communication with each of the redoubts by means of mounted men.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY:

GENERAL: The engineer officers in charge of the several works complain that the fatigue details almost invariably come to them late and short-handed, and not always with very explicit orders. I depend on you to correct this in your respective commands. A copy of the order from these headquarters should be in the hands of the officer in command of the detail. Details should have a full complement of commissioned officers. I must hold division commanders responsible for these matters. General Terry will please send General Orders, No. 8, to the commanders of the redoubts to-night.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

(Same to Turner and Kautz.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH CORPS,
In the Field, June 3, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Yesterday evening a flag of truce arrived from the enemy asking for the body of Colonel Dantzler. This morning I sent out the body. At the time of the delivery of the body letters from Major Sanford and the officers captured yesterday were received; they ask that their clothing may be sent to them. I respectfully ask for permission to send it out by flag of truce this afternoon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., June 3, 1864.

Capt. HORACE JAMES,
Asst. Q. M., U. S. Vols., &c., Supt. of Negro Affairs:

CAPTAIN: The commanding general directs me to inform you that some negroes are occupying several houses in Beaufort that are

needed very much for the white refugees from Washington and elsewhere, who are now crowded in the hospital buildings at Morehead. Owing, undoubtedly, to these unfortunate people being so closely packed, an epidemic has made its appearance among them that bids fair to work extensive destruction unless they are otherwise provided for. For this reason the commanding general desires you to make some arrangements for the present occupants, in order that the houses referred to may be turned over to the refugees. Perhaps the colored people could be brought to New Berne and placed in one of the colored camps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. JUDSON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *June* 4, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

In the month of May we sent to the Army of the Potomac 6,683 cavalry horses, in addition to the cavalrymen remounted here. About 1,000 more cavalry horses are being shipped to White House. Not hearing from you in regard to the Ohio militia, I am preparing ten regiments for the field, and will send them as fast as transportation can be procured. The Fifth Maryland Regiment Volunteers has been ordered from Fort Delaware. General Gillmore thinks that 5,000 more men can safely be withdrawn from Department of the South. General Hatch, on the contrary, is asking for re-enforcements. General Crook, at Lewisburg, May 31, expected to join General Hunter at Staunton in about six days. General Canby has sent forces to Memphis to protect Sherman's communications. I doubt if he will be able to do much on Mobile at present. Moreover, the movement would be too late to help Sherman. The latter is in possession of Allatoona Pass, and is moving against Marietta.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 4, 1864—1 p. m.
(Received 10.10 a. m. 5th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The 100-days' men can be of no great service here; but if they can be just as well supplied at White House as elsewhere, it might be well to put as many of them at that point as can be spared.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 27. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 4, 1864.

1. To prevent confusion and delay in the forwarding of supplies to the Army of the Potomac, all troops, posts, and stations on the line over which such supplies at present or may hereafter pass, in conse-

quence of any change in the position of the army, are assigned to the command of Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, commanding the Army of the Potomac, and will so report and receive orders, without reference to the territorial department in which they may be or to which they belong, until otherwise directed.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. S. PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 4, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: If the firing this evening has been opened by the enemy without further attack, or if they attack and are repulsed, I think it will be well to retaliate by opening every battery that bears upon them at 12 or 1 to-night. It will have the effect to wake up the whole of the enemy's camp and keep them on the watch until daylight.

Respectfully, &c.,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: I was about sending the accompanying dispatch* when your note arrived. I can order the batteries to be opened as you suggest; but, whilst it keeps the enemy "awake," their reply, which they will undoubtedly make, will keep our people awake, and, in addition, it will interfere with the approaches I have ordered to be made to-night.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

It was only a desire to retaliate for annoyances that made me suggest opening our batteries to-night. If it is going to interfere with any operations you need not direct it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—7.15 a. m.

The following movements will take place to-day, as soon after dark as practicable:

First. Major-General Birney, commanding Third Division, Second Corps, will withdraw from his present position, as soon after dark as practicable, and report with his division to Major-General Hancock.

* Not found.

Second. As soon as the withdrawal of Birney is so far advanced as to admit, Major-General Warren will withdraw the Fifth Corps from its present position and establish it on the line of the main branch of the Matadequin, his left resting on the right of Smith's corps, in the vicinity of Woody's, and his right on or near the Old Church road.

Third. Simultaneously with the withdrawal of Major-General Warren, Major-General Burnside will withdraw his corps, and move by the right to the Old Church and Cold Harbor road, to a suitable point in rear of Cold Harbor, and be prepared to move in support to any part of the line that may require it.

Fourth. One division of cavalry will be posted at Old Church, and picket from the right of the army to the Totopotomoy and Pamunkey. One division will be posted on the left flank of the army, and will picket to the Chickahominy and the crossings of that stream. The remaining division will be held in reserve at some convenient point. The commanders concerned in the operations ordered will consult with each other, that the movements and changes of position may be made harmoniously. Staff officers will be sent during the day to examine the route to be followed and the ground to be occupied.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 152. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *June* 4, 1864.

* * * * * * *

IX. The following issue of rations will be made to-day to the Second, Fifth, and Sixth Corps, and to the troops not assigned to corps, three days'; and to the Ninth Corps, including the two days' ordered to be drawn on the 2d instant, but not issued until to-day, five days'—the object of the issue now ordered being to give five days' subsistence on the persons of the men from to-morrow morning. The wagons emptied by this issue will be sent with as little delay as practicable to the White House to be filled up, accompanied by the necessary officers of the subsistence department.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—9.40 p. m.

The enemy having opened a fire this evening, the commanding general authorizes each corps commander to open every battery that bears upon them at midnight or 1 o'clock, and keep up the fire until daylight, if in his judgment the firing will not, by a retaliating fire from the enemy, cause as great annoyance and loss to our troops as to theirs, and if it will not interfere with the advance of the positions by regular approaches ordered for to-night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Cold Harbor, Va., June 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. SETH WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The acting chief quartermaster of the Ninth Corps has reported some 250 of the wagons and teams recently drawn from the Washington Depot, in park, unserviceable. He has made requisition for some 2,000 mules, 100 wagons, &c. I have the honor to request that the general commanding will direct an inspection to be made, by an experienced officer, of the means of transportation belonging to the Ninth Corps, and a report of its condition when transferred to the corps, and the causes of its present bad condition, the additional number of animals, wagons, &c., necessary in order to place the transportation on the basis prescribed by General Orders, No. 20, of April 20, 1864.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
RUFUS INGALLS,
Brig. Gen., Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that during the night you advance your positions by regular approaches.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Wright and Smith.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—10.20 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: My batteries have opened upon the enemy.
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

What is all the firing I hear apparently on your front?
GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

SECOND CORPS,
June 4, 1864—9.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy made an attack on Colonel Beaver, General Barlow's advanced line, just as the artillery firing commenced, but were promptly and handsomely repulsed. The firing that has just commenced is in Smith's front, apparently.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 4, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Do you design opening fire at midnight under the instructions of 9.30 p. m.? It does not appear to me judicious, and I shall not open unless it is done by every corps commander. I believe it will severely interfere with our approaches, and it will certainly interfere with the sleep of the men.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding Sixth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 4, 1864—10.50 p. m.

General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

I have directed that no opening will be made unless provoked by the enemy or by the enemy's responding to the fire by other corps on my right; in either of which cases I will open after the working parties are withdrawn and will probably continue the fire until daylight. I do not desire to open. I think it is probable the enemy will do so in opposition to some of our working parties.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—10.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: I do not think it wise for me to open with my artillery, as my working parties are so close to the enemy, unless they should open in reply to the artillery of other corps or open without provocation, in which case I will reply. If the enemy fire at all, I shall open and continue the firing until daylight.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 4, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

I shall open an artillery fire at 1.30.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 4, 1864.

Col. J. C. TIDBALL, *Commanding Artillery:*

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you open with your batteries on the enemy's line at 1.30, giving orders to battery commanders to fire as deliberately as possible, and with due regard to the expenditure of ammunition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864.

Colonel TIDBALL:

Please send word that you are going to open to division commanders that they may move the troops immediately in front of your guns, where necessary.

C. H. MORGAN.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864.

During the night the position of the command will be advanced as far as possible toward the enemy by means of regular approaches. The work will be done under the direction of the commanders of First and Second Divisions. Lieut. R. S. Mackenzie, Engineer Department, will offer such advice and assistance as may be in his power, and will assign to each division a portion of his detachment, if required, for the instruction of the troops in running the approaches.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General BARLOW,
First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that he has directed the commandant of artillery to open with his batteries on the enemy's lines at 1.30.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 4, 1864—10 p. m.

The above is furnished for the information of the commanding officers of brigades and batteries.

By order of Brigadier-General Barlow:

JOHN HANCOCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 4, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: The sharpshooters I sent out this morning have discovered the body of Colonel McKeen lying in front of the enemy's works in a position from which they will not be able to remove it

until after dark. They succeeded, however, in removing the papers (by which the body was recognized), watch, &c., which are to be brought to me this evening.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brig. Gen. of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 146. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *June* 4, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. Col. B. R. Pierce, Third Michigan Volunteers, will report without delay to Brigadier-General Gibbon, commanding Second Division, for assignment to the command of a brigade.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS, *June* 4, 1864.

This division will doubtless be relieved during the day to return to the corps, and brigade commanders will hold the troops in readiness to move promptly in following order: First, Second, Fourth, and Third Brigades. A staff officer will be sent to notify brigade commanders of time of movement.

By command of Major-General Birney:

F. F. CAVADA,
Lieut. Col. and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS, *June* 4, 1864—3.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have received no orders as to leaving my present position. I called upon Major-General Warren this morning, and was told by that officer that I would be relieved by Major-General Burnside during the day. Major-General Burnside has just left me, and reports his column near by. Upon being relieved by him I will rejoin my corps.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *June* 4, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires that you send half your sharpshooters daily upon the front line, one-half of the daily detail to report to General Gibbon and the remainder to General Barlow.

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Lieut. Col. and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I report all quiet in my front. The enemy have not during the day shown any force, or artillery. The firing has been a mere picket one.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
June 4, 1864—6.40 a. m.

General A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The enemy have fallen back from my right. I am now pushing up to find out where they have gone to.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Fifth Corps:*

The major-general commanding, learning that the enemy have withdrawn from Burnside's front, directs that you contract your lines to the left as far as practicable, and relieve General Birney, and order him to report to General Hancock. General Burnside is ordered to move to the left and take up the ground you vacate so far as it may be necessary, concentrating his force at the same time.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Telegram reporting withdrawal of enemy from your right received. This is either to mass for an attack somewhere on us, or they are withdrawing beyond the Chickahominy. In either case Burnside ought to close up on you and you close to the left, as Birney should return to his corps and await further intelligence from you and Burnside; but we had better get ready for receiving attack as soon as possible. The other contingency can be met at leisure.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—8.40 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Dispatch of 7.45 received. I am making arrangements for closing to the left as soon as Burnside is ready to occupy the vacancy I make. The enemy is still southwest of Bethesda Church, same as before, and from there on to our left.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
June 4, 1864—10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE:

I find as the result of the reconnaissance of this morning that the enemy is along most of my front and has simply abandoned his position along the Shady Grove road fronting my right brigade and General Burnside's troops. The quickest way to relieve General Birney, if you are in a hurry, is for General Burnside to send a division or two direct to the place without closing in to me, and let me do the best I can with the right.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Dispatch of 10 a. m. received. I approve of the proposed move of Burnside on your left, relieving Birney. Show this dispatch to Burnside, and any surplus troops he and you can get, hold in readiness for contingencies.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
June 4, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

In case I withdraw to the road running to Old Church during the night or to-morrow morning, I can probably spare General Crittenden's division, so that he can follow not far behind the others. Have you any designs which his doing so will interfere with? The enemy shows no desire to press us to-day, and now that he has abandoned the Shady Grove road, I think we can sustain alone any attack that we are liable to to-day and give a good account of it.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—4.30 p. m. (Received 4.40 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch of 3 p. m. received. The major-general commanding directs me to say that the divisions of a corps should not be separated, and that General Crittenden's division must be transferred to the left and held by General Burnside in reserve, if that will not weaken your line too much. If it should, then General Crittenden should take the place of your left division, so as to keep Burnside's troops together, and your left division or some other take the place now occupied by him. The movement contemplated for to-night will not probably take place.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864. (Received 5.10 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Which is the ranking officer, General Cutler or General Ayres?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

Generals Ayres and Cutler were both appointed brigadier-generals November 29, 1862. General Ayres' name appears first on the Army Register.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that during the night you push forward your position, or such parts of it as admit of it, as close to the enemy as practicable, by regular approaches.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Burnside.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,:

I have just received your dispatch to push out in such parts as admit of it as close to the enemy as practicable, by regular approaches. It is impracticable to do anything to-night, as no arrangements have been made for so doing, and not contemplating it, under the impression I had obtained last night, I allowed my engineers to go back this evening after rations. My line can be advanced considerably on my left at a jump without regular approaches, but it must be done in conjunction with an advance on my left, which must be all arranged before hand, otherwise I might find my advanced position by daylight flanked by the enemy. I send you a sketch* of my position, by which it will be seen I do not exaggerate in stating my line to be between 4 and 5 miles long. It was so also on May 30. The map, too, has a correct reconnaissance of the two forks of the Matadequin and of the road from Cold Harbor to Old Church, which latter is quite wrong on your map, bending there to the west instead of to the east. I would like to preserve this sketch on account of its being a record of my position.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

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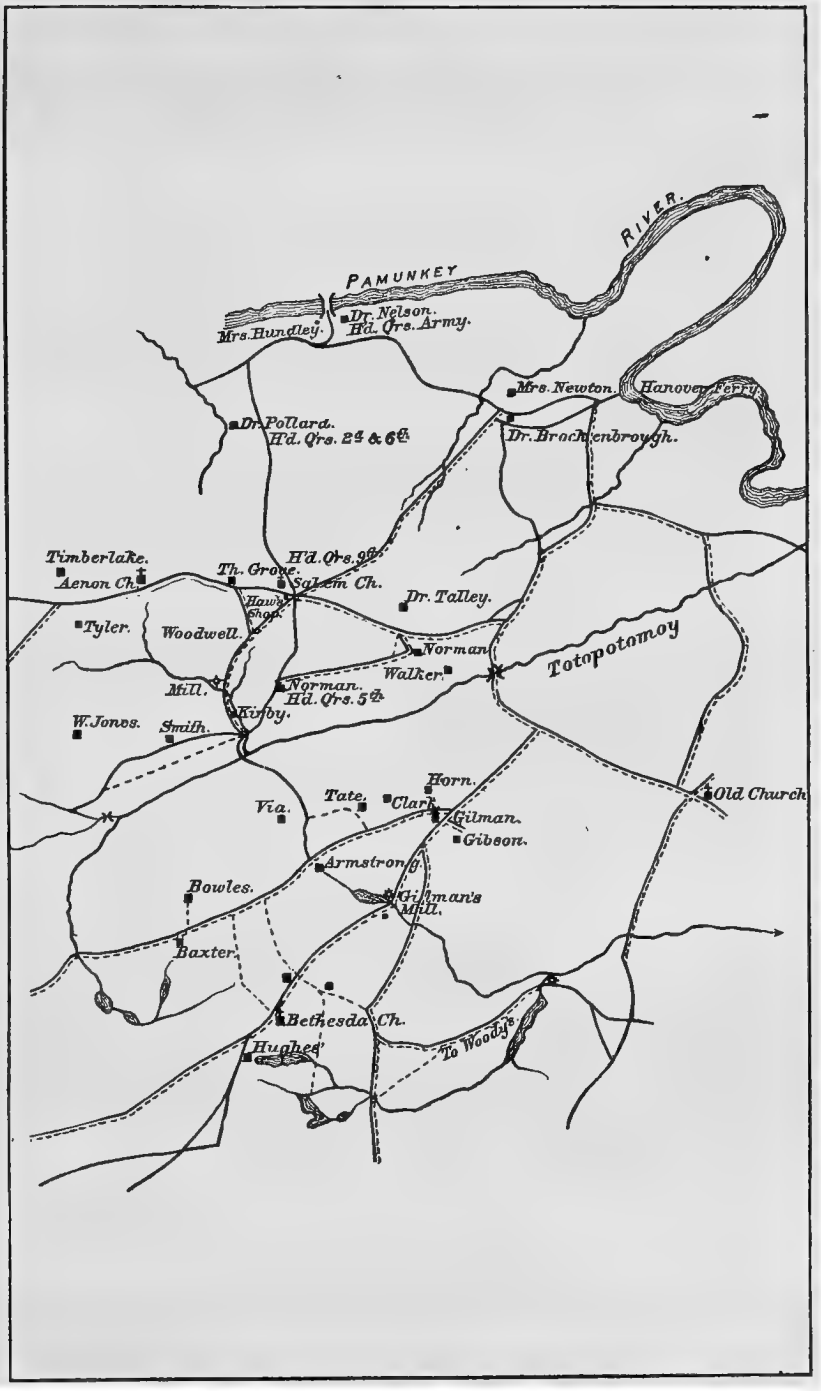
*The sketch following may possibly have accompanied Warren's dispatch of May 30, 11 a. m. (see p. 338), but it is filed with the communication of June 4. Only one sketch is found.


PAMUNKEY
RIVER.
Dr. Nelson.
Hd. Qrs. Army.
Mrs. Hundley.
Mrs. Newton.
Hanover Ferry.
Dr. Pollard.
Hd. Qrs. 2d & 6th
Dr. Brockenbrough.
Timberlake.
Aenon Ch.
Th. Grove.
Hd. Qrs. 9th
Salem Ch.
Dr. Talley.
Hawes Shop.
Tyler.
Woodwell.
Norman.
Totopotomoy
Walker.
Mill.
Norman.
Hd. Qrs. 5th
Kirby.
W. Jones.
Smith.
Horn.
Tate.
Clark.
Via.
Old Church
Gilman.
Gibson.
Armstrong.
Bowles.
Gilman's Mill.
Baxter.
Bethesda Ch.
Hughes.
To Woody's

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *June* 4, 1864.

1. In compliance with orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the Forty-first New York Volunteers is relieved from duty with the Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Fifth Corps, and will report at once for duty to Major-General Burnside, commanding Ninth Corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Comdg. First Division, Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you advance your skirmishers and feel for the enemy till you find him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
June 4, 1864—5 a. m.

Brig. Gen. C. GRIFFIN,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my pickets have advanced and are now in the rebel earth-works in my front. The enemy have left.

Very respectfully,

J. B. SWEITZER,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—11 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

Considering the very great length of our line, our isolated position, and the facility which the woods furnish for massing troops against our center during the night for an assault in the morning, I wish you would make sure and have your men on the alert at early dawn to prevent any such attempts succeeding against us.

Very respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—11.45 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

I feel so much concern about our center in case the enemy should succeed in breaking through where General Ayres is, that I think it

is best, when you are sure it can be done, to withdraw one-half of each of Bartlett's and Sweitzer's brigades, with a part of the artillery, to the line just back of the church as early as 3 a. m., so that we can be prepared. I think we will not have to move to-morrow, so that we need not mind fatiguing the men.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
June 4, 1864—11.55 p. m.

General WARREN:

I will direct the artillery to be placed as you suggest at once. In case of firing I can withdraw a part of Colonel Sweitzer's brigade.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. W. CRAWFORD,
Commanding Second Division, Fifth Corps:

The commanding general desires that you will at once send in lists of the officers proposed for the two new regiments organized from the Pennsylvania Reserves. If any of the officers recommended are absent, please note the fact in a remark.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. W. CRAWFORD,
Commanding Second Division, Fifth Corps:

The commanding general thinks that the new regiments organized from the Pennsylvania Reserves had better be called the First and Second Pennsylvania Veteran Reserve Regiments. Have the officers retained for the new regiments been transferred to these regiments with the same rank they held in the old regiments? The commanding general presumes such to be the case, but desires to know certainly before acting upon your request with regard to the muster in of the officers.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—11 p. m.

General CUTLER:

Considering the very great length of our line, our isolated position, and the facility which the woods afford the enemy for massing troops against our center during the night for an assault at day-

break, I wish you would make sure to have your men early on the alert to prevent such an attempt from succeeding. If the attack should be made on your right or left, assist at once by flank attacks on the assaulting column.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

It is reported to me (through Colonel Hyde of your staff) that a deserter has come into your lines reporting the withdrawal of the enemy from your front. Is there anything in this?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—7.35 a. m. (Received 8 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The deserter referred to by the major-general commanding did not report the withdrawal of the enemy from my front, but that Pickett's division had been withdrawn, from what part of the line he could not tell. The man has been confined in Castle Thunder for a long time as a deserter; was sent to the front yesterday, and I attach little importance to his statements. All the reports from my front represent matters unchanged, and the enemy in force, but the whole line is now being examined by staff officers. Any change will be promptly reported.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 4, 1864—11.38 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

As it will probably materially interfere with the approaches now in progress, I consider it inexpedient to open an artillery fire to-night, and shall not, therefore, do so unless it is done by other corps.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
Near Cold Harbor, Va., June 4, 1864.

It is reported that the enemy are massing troops on the right of this corps. Division commanders will hold their commands in readiness to meet an attack should one be attempted, and will, as far as practicable, closely observe any movements in their respective fronts.

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General RICKETTS :

In pursuance of the orders already given you will advance to-night your position as much as possible toward the enemy by approaches, and I suggest that you open, if practicable, the line now held by your skirmishers, making it a continuous line of intrenchments to be occupied before daylight by your first line of battle. This line should be connected with the rear by zigzags. Possibly a greater advance may be made on some portions at least of your line.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Commanding.

Please report at daylight the progress you have made.

W.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—4 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL : The letter, with Special Orders, No. 151,* did not reach my headquarters until 2.30, the orderly having lost his way; so that it will be impossible for Colonel Cesnola to move in the night as the order directed. I have retained the orderly here until the receipt of my morning reports, which have just come in. All is quiet in our front and our advanced line is well fortified. I will see General Warren at once in reference to the proposed movement to-night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

The orderly has gone to Colonel Cesnola.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—6.05 a. m.

General MEADE :

It is reported from my advanced line that the enemy has withdrawn from our front. We have sent out and will find where he is, if possible. I made a mistake in reporting our losses to Colonel Platt at 800 yesterday ; it was about 1,000.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—6.35 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

It is now certain that the enemy has left our front and retreated down the Shady Grove road. They left just before daylight, withdrawing their skirmishers a few minutes since. Our skirmishers

* See p. 529.

are following. Prisoners report their loss as considerable. Shall I change the position of my main force, and, if so, in what direction? I go to General Warren's headquarters at once, and I will report result of consultation.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your telegram announcing withdrawal of enemy from your front received. I am awaiting your report as to the extent of this withdrawal and the amount of your line relieved, to give necessary orders.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—7.30 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch of 6.35 a. m. is received. General Warren is ordered to contract his lines to the left as far as practicable and relieve General Birney. The major-general commanding directs that you move to the left and occupy as much of the ground vacated by General Warren as may be necessary, retaining at the same time some part of your command in reserve, available for supports.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Comdg. Ninth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: Major-General Warren directs me to say that he has been ordered to contract his lines to the left as far as practicable. He requests that you inform him as soon as you are ready to move to your left and he will relieve the right brigade of your First Division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I have seen the dispatch from General Smith,* and would state that I have just ordered troops from the Ninth Corps in to relieve General Griffin. This will enable Warren, I think, to relieve General Birney at once.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

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* See Smith to Humphreys, 8.30 a. m., p. 588.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General MEADE:

My two divisions are just starting to occupy the position which General Birney now holds, and I am just leaving to inspect the position in person. Shall return to my present headquarters very soon.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

JUNE 4, 1864—2.45 p. m.
(Received 2.50 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac,
at General Wright's or General Hancock's Headquarters:

I do not know why this arrangement* is made, unless to relieve Birney more quickly. Smith telegraphed, asking if Birney was to be relieved, that it might be done as soon as practicable, in order that certain intrenchments and batteries for the security of his right might be made by the troops at that point. I sent the dispatch to Warren. This is the first intimation I have had of Burnside going into Birney's place. It might interfere with the ulterior changes contemplated should it go on.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864. (Received 5 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Just as subsistence train arrived the order for my position came, so that I had to turn the train back before issuing. The consequence is that we have not empty wagons enough to carry off our wounded, and will have to wait until the train can get up to our new position and unload and return for the hospitals. If General Warren is to remain in his present position until near morning we will be able to get everything off, but if not I fear the wounded will have to be left, unless the cavalry could occupy the ground on our extreme right. Since writing the above I remember that General Meade told me at the quarters of General Smith that it was not likely that General Warren would move to-night, and that considerable force of cavalry had been sent around in this direction.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—5.15 p. m. (Received 5.20 p. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

The cavalry on the right has been considerably strengthened, and will, by its operations, protect your hospitals, certainly as long as the time mentioned by you. It is not probable General Warren will move to-night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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* Reference is to Burnside's dispatch, next preceding.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: The enemy have abandoned their works in my front, withdrawing about daylight, their skirmishers falling back a short time since. The prisoners report that they fell back to the left, moving on the Shady Grove road. They report their loss as considerable. I have ordered my skirmishers advanced a short distance, but shall not move without orders. I presume Major Morton will order the work going on here suspended.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864.

General R. B. POTTER, *Comdg. Second Div., Ninth Army Corps:*

Your dispatch received. General Willcox makes a like report, and he has sent out a strong reconnaissance in his front to ascertain the point to which the enemy has retreated, if possible. It would seem to obviate the necessity for anything more than scouts on your part, as they have, no doubt, passed entirely by your extreme left, but it would be well to throw them out as far as or beyond the Via house. Major Morton has left here to look at the work near your headquarters. Please request him, in my name, to suspend the work. Please communicate this to Colonel Cesnola, and request him to inform General Wilson.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *Ninth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: Are the forces of General Ferrero on the Cold Harbor road? I understood that they were somewhere in that direction. Colonel Cesnola has just sent me word that his withdrawal leaves the road to Cold Harbor and the White House open. This I suppose to be a mistake.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 4, 1864—9.25 a. m.

General R. B. POTTER, *Comdg. Second Div., Ninth Army Corps:*

The general commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Orders have been received to move to the left, and definite instructions will be sent you soon.

By command of Maj. Gen. A. E. Burnside:

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 4, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I have not yet heard from my scouts, but have ordered Colonel McElroy to make a reconnaissance with two regiments in case the report prove correct.

Respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

JUNE 4, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Major Avery, Sixtieth Ohio Volunteers, reports that the enemy have withdrawn from my front. I have ordered scouts sent out; will report further soon.

Respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. FERRERO, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to say that for the present you will furnish from your division and the dismounted cavalry under your orders such escorts as may be necessary to guard to the White House trains conveying the wounded and the supply trains, and the latter back to this army. The chief quartermaster with the supply train will notify you from time to time when escorts are required.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Bethesda Church, June 4, 1864.

In accordance with orders from general headquarters, this corps will move to the neighborhood of the Woody house and take position between the Fifth Army Corps and the Eighteenth Army Corps, on the space now occupied by General Birney's division. The directions require Generals Potter and Willcox to move at once, and General Crittenden to remain until evening, when he will be relieved by General Warren and join the corps, where he will remain in reserve. General Willcox's division will have the advance, followed by General Potter. The column will be conducted by Major Morton, and placed in position. General Warren will relieve General Crittenden's division this evening, and furnish him with a guide to his position. The subsistence of the command will be issued to-night after the arrival at Woody's. My headquarters will be in the neighborhood of Woody's.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

The troops will march down the road in rear of General Warren's line. The wagons and artillery will take the road leading past these headquarters, taking the first turn to the right.

JUNE 4, 1864. (Received 4.10 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS:

I have arrived at General Warren's headquarters with my command, 6,350 men, who have had no rations or forage since yesterday. By General Warren's advice, I shall camp near Woody's to-night, and request to be furnished with rations at that point if possible. I have a pontoon train and 150 wagons, containing nothing but a little baggage.

A. A. GIBSON,
Colonel of the Second Pennsylvania Vol. Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 4, 1864—[8.30 a. m.]

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: I sent General Ames over this morning to consult with General Birney regarding the mutual protection of our lines. He expressed perfect willingness to co-operate with us, but informed General Ames that he was to be relieved. Under these circumstances I suppose he will scarcely feel disposed to get his men to work on his line, as he was to be relieved, probably soon. Our right flank is very weak as it is; both in men and defensive arrangements. The latter will need strong works on our flank beyond our front and the line now occupied by General Birney. I cannot possibly fill his place from my command. If he is to be relieved, other troops should be sent to fill his place, that immediate steps may be taken to complete our defenses, now in a backward state, which need co-operation of both commands.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,
WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Major-General SMITH,
Eighteenth Corps:

Your dispatch of 8.30 a. m. is received. General Warren is ordered to relieve General Birney and fill the vacancy from his own troops, and to contract his lines from the right. The enemy has left General Burnside's front, and he is ordered to close in on the left and occupy ground vacated by Warren, and concentrate his command. I will transmit copy of your dispatch to General Warren.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that as soon as possible you issue to your troops sufficient subsistence to give the

men five days' rations from to-morrow morning, which will be carried on their persons. It is understood that the issue now ordered can be made from the stores you have already received and from those on the way to you from the White House. The wagons emptied by the issue will be sent to the White House with as little delay as practicable, to be filled up, accompanied by a subsistence officer from each division to draw the stores.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH:

I have assigned some heavy artillery regiments, over 6,000 strong, to your corps.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—8.10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

The Tenth New York and the Second Pennsylvania Regiments of Heavy Artillery brought to this army to-day with the command of Col. A. A. Gibson, have been assigned to your corps. These regiments are to-night in the vicinity of the Woody house.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 4, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In my dispatch to you, June 2, reporting my operations of the 1st instant, I find I have made an error, which I hasten to correct. In a verbal report to me, I understood General Devens, commanding Third Division of my corps, positively to say that his first line preceded the first line of Sixth Corps on his left in the assault in the woods and the capture of the rifle-pits. In a further conversation with him this morning, he says this was not so, and that he was preceded by the first line of the Sixth Corps. I regret exceedingly the injustice unintentionally done the Sixth Corps, and beg that my dispatch be corrected to this extent.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: As soon as General Burnside's troops arrive to take your place in the lines, the commanding general directs that you withdraw all of your command now on the far side of the swamp to this side to be formed as a reserve to our right flank. The lines will be relieved by regiments as General Burnside arrives to take your place. The battery on our right will be withdrawn to-night by Captain Elder. To-morrow your troops will relieve those of General Martindale, for which proper order will be given.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Old Church Tavern, June 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that Cavalry Corps headquarters are established at Old Church Tavern, 1 mile this side of Cold Harbor on left-hand side of road going down. General Sheridan has not yet returned from General Wilson.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The Thirteenth Ohio Mounted Infantry is ordered to report to you to-morrow morning. The major-general commanding desires that you dismount it and give the horses to your dismounted veterans.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. 2D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—9 p. m.

Lieut. Col. J. W. FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff:

This evening at 6 o'clock the enemy opened upon me with four pieces of artillery. The guns were not the same as those used yesterday. The bolts from Whitworth guns reached to the rear of my headquarters. Opposite Bottom's Bridge the enemy have been very busy during the day digging. Late this evening at Fisher's Bridge (rather ford), 1½ miles below Bottom's Bridge, a party of the enemy were formed in the swamp on this side the river. They had constructed barricades and were in dense woods. A squadron

sent to dislodge the enemy were fired into. Dark coming on, and the exact position of the party not being satisfactorily ascertained, the enemy were not driven back. At daylight I will attack the force on this side. The opinion of officers who were near Fisher's is that the force there is infantry. Regiments of cavalry and also of infantry have been reported to me as having been seen moving about on the opposite side. The enemy cannot advance during the night without my knowing it early enough to resist. It may be that the demonstration here is to occupy my attention whilst a cavalry force is moved off to some other point, possibly Jones' Bridge. I did not reply to the artillery fire. The enemy's sharpshooters annoyed my pickets in front during the day.

D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY,
June 4, 1864.

Col. J. I. GREGG,
Comdg. Second Brigade, Second Division, Cavalry:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you keep one of your regiments saddled to-night, and that you keep a strong camp guard on side of your camp next the river.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD CAVALRY DIV., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Salem Church Road, June 4, 1864—7 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: All is quiet along my front; patrols have been pushed out on all the roads, except opposite Via's, without discovering the enemy. My horses have been out of forage [some] thirty hours; my men out of rations [over] a day, and being hard at work with the enemy ever since crossing the Pamunkey. Most of my horses have been kept saddled over forty-eight hours, and my command needs rest. I look, therefore, with great anxiety to the arrival of the cavalry division mentioned in your communication of last night. My command is very much worn out, but my rations and forage I hear are within 2 miles from here on their way up.

Very respectfully,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, June 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. SETH WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: In answer to your two letters of June 4, the Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (One hundred and twelfth Pennsylvania Volunteers), and the Tenth New York Heavy Artillery started for the front from Port Royal, Va., on the 31st May, under command of Colonel Gibson, Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery. The re-

turn of the troops in this command is inclosed. Trains for the army leave here at 5 and 11 a. m. and 5 p. m. The troops will be sent to you, guarding their trains, as per General Grant's order to me. No troops have left me yet with less than 80 rounds of ammunition. The general's direction with regard to six days' rations and 50 rounds ammunition will be complied with. I have as a permanent garrison to this post one regiment cavalry, about 300 men; one regiment Veteran Reserves, infantry, about 394 effective men for duty out of 900 men; one small veteran regiment of infantry, about 275 men, and one battery artillery, about 150 men; total, 1,175. Of the effective part of this force two-thirds are on constant duty, guarding subsistence and quartermaster's stores, prisoners, and in furnishing details for loading and unloading barges and wagons. I have three battalions colored troops here (small) on constant duty in the rifle-pits and works staked out by engineer officers sent by you. All the new troops that report to me will be sent forward as rapidly as possible.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
June 4, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR, *Commanding:*

One regiment from Johnson's Island, five from West Virginia, and one from Fort Delaware, have been ordered to report to you to be sent to General Grant. You will also prepare four regiments of the 100-days' men in defenses of Washington for the field, and send them to General Grant as soon as possible.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, *June* 4, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Yours of 3d, with duplicate order about Fredericksburg bridges, received at 10 a. m., when my aide was believed to be in charge of pontoon raft that just passed up. I telegraphed General Butler last night your order about these bridges, and have now telegraphed to Jamestown to intercept this raft and return here, if commanded by my officer lately on the Rappahannock, believing this to be what is desired now, although General Halleck's order was for all bridges here or at Port Royal to go up to General Butler.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—7.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, Fort Monroe, Va.:

The commanding general desires you to send in a report showing what bridging material and intrenching tools have been brought by you to Fort Monroe, what you expect to receive in addition, and the disposition made of the property in your charge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Fort Monroe, June 4, 1864. (Received 4.55 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

In reply to your dispatch of this date, just received, I would state that I brought here about 1,460 feet of wooden bridging, all for which I had the chess. This was sent up to General Butler on the day of its arrival, June 1, by order of General Halleck. I am expecting here to-morrow, if the weather permits it to come out of York River, the bridge that was at Fredericksburg, last placed under General Abercrombie. This was over 400 feet. I have also here for an emergency fifteen canvas boats, but no other bridging, as I had not the chess. In addition I have here in the barges the sandbags, tools, lumber, and other material ordered by General Humphreys, according to Major Duane's schedule, on the 16th of April. I would further state that the bridging that arrived at Washington from New York since I left, I believe about 1,200 feet, has been sent, as Colonel Pettes telegraphs to-day, to Bermuda Hundred, by order of the War Department, and I presume it to be in a raft that I saw passing Rip at 9 a. m. to-day. There is no more bridging of any consequence now at the depot, and I expect no more at present.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—12 m. (Received 6.20 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

Your dispatch of 7 p. m. June 3 received. The commanding general directs that you collect at Fortress Monroe all the bridging material at your command, including that just sent to Washington from New York, and that you hold the same in readiness to be moved at very short notice, unless you receive instructions of a contrary tenor from authority superior to the commanding general, and in that event you will promptly communicate to these headquarters any orders that may be sent you by such superior authority.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—5.20 p. m. (Received 11.15 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM:

The commanding general directs that the two steamers you have be turned over to the quartermaster's department, and that the property in your charge on the steamers be placed in such locality on shore that it can promptly be put afloat again when required. A dispatch was sent to you this morning directing that the bridging expected at Washington from New York be at once taken to Fortress Monroe.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 4, 1864—6.10 p. m. (Received 11.15 a. m. 5th.)

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM:

Your dispatch of this date received. I am directed by the commanding general to say that it has not been the design of any order issued here to interfere in any manner with a full compliance on your part with the instructions given you by Major-General Halleck with regard to sending bridging to General Butler. When the order directing you to collect all the bridging and hold it at Fortress Monroe subject to the orders of the commanding general, of which a copy was sent to you yesterday, was issued it was not known here that any instructions had been given you by General Halleck. The commanding general desires, however, that you will promptly communicate to him the substance of any instructions you may receive from Major-General Halleck, so that he may be kept acquainted with the condition of affairs in your charge. A pontoon bridge has been brought here to-day by the command of Col. A. A. Gibson. Perhaps it is the one sent to Port Royal from Fredericksburg, but I cannot at the present moment ascertain this.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON NAVY-YARD,
June 4, 1864. (Received 12.30 p. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM:

Captain Slosson has gone to White House. The New York bridge has been sent to Bermuda Hundred by the order of the War Department. There is not a foot of bridge complete here. All its balks and chess have been sent away. I shall have fourteen wooden pontoons finished in about a week. Hope to have chess and balk for them and twenty canvas boats within ten days.

W. H. PETTES,
Colonel, &c

NAVY-YARD, *Washington, June* 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM:

The bridge from New York has been sent to Bermuda Hundred by Department orders.

W. H. PETTES,
Colonel, &c.

BERMUDA, *June* 4, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

The Mayflower has arrived loaded with ammunition from the fort. When about 18 miles this side of Newport News two field pieces opened upon her from the left-hand side of the river; coming up 4 miles this side of Day's Point, 40 shots were fired, but only 1 went through the vessel, doing no damage. Jamestown Island, Fort Powhatan, and Wilson's Landing have been notified of the attack by the master of the Mayflower.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Farrar's Island, Va., June 4, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 8.30 p. m. 5th.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

No enemy's armed vessel has been seen since we came up this river. A barge and four schooners, provided by and at the expense of the army, are here to-night ready, with shingle ballast, for sinking in Trent's Reach at the locality designated by General Butler, who recommends the measure. This will be done if a diminution of my force or controlling military operations require it previous to the arrival of the torpedo-fitted decked steam-barges, which I hope soon to receive.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In Camp, June 4, 1864.

General GILLMORE,
Commanding, &c.:

General Butler directs that hereafter no flag of truce be sent to the enemy, except by orders from these headquarters.

CHAS. J. PAINE,
Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

GILLMORE'S,
June 4, 1864.

Colonel PAINE,
Acting Chief of Staff:

I have never sent a flag of truce but once, and then by General Butler's permission.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 32. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., June 4, 1864.

I. Two sections of Wheeler's battery, now in reserve, will relieve the two sections of Sanger's battery, now posted in Battery No. 4. The ranges to the different rebel batteries in front will be noted.

II. Ashby's battery will be posted in the new water battery in the bend a short distance below Curtis' house. Lieutenant Mowers, commanding, will report for duty to First Lieut. George Dimock, First Connecticut Artillery, commanding the battery.

III. Col. H. M. Plaisted, commanding Third Brigade, will detail from his command 100 men, properly officered, to report at 5 p. m. this day, for picket duty, to Col. J. B. Howell, commanding First Brigade.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. HDQRS. CAV. DIV., DEPT. VA. AND N. C., *Near Point of Rocks, Va., June* 4, 1864.

In consequence of some acts of pillaging and plundering on the recent expeditions that have come to his notice, the general commanding finds it necessary to call the attention of the command to the subject, with a view to its correction on future expeditions within the enemy's lines. Officers are admonished that there is nothing that so seriously demoralizes a command than the neglect on their part to check, by the most stringent and arbitrary measures, all disposition to plunder or pillage on the part of the men. Soldiers should know that pillaging and plundering are among the most serious offenses that they can commit, and that the custom of commanders has been to cause the summary execution of men caught in the act. Officers have usually been directed to shoot down on the spot men engaged in these crimes. A few men by their conduct in this respect can cancel all the credit which the command would otherwise receive through its achievements, and those that have the misfortune to be captured are at the mercy of the enemy, as such acts cause to the perpetrators and their associates a forfeiture of their right to be treated as prisoners of war.

It is, therefore, the duty of every soldier, on the ground of self-protection, to aid in bringing to punishment offenders of this nature. The enemy have natural rights, which should be respected, and all soldiers should treat their foes as they should claim to be treated if the misfortunes of war placed them at the mercy of their opponents. Retaliation, which is sometimes the excuse for such offenses, cannot be left to the discretion of individuals, but must be directed by proper authority. The principles regarding captures should be understood by all soldiers, as well as officers; they are fixed by law and regulations, and are constantly reiterated in orders. (See General Orders, No. 10, headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, current series.*)

All captures by the army are the property of the Government, which requires that everything seized from individuals in the enemy's lines shall be taken by officers and receipted for in the name of the United States, and regularly taken up and accounted for as any other similar property claimed by the Government. Officers who neglect to do this lay themselves liable to the penalties prescribed for the embezzlement of public property. The peculiar character of the cavalry service affords facilities and temptations greater than in the other arms of the service, and renders stringent measures to correct evil more necessary. The general commanding warns offenders that he will use every effort to bring them to punishment. He is satisfied that there is no unusual tendency to steal and rob (for such are the names of these offenses in times of peace) in the command, but he is anxious to have it entirely free from such imputations, and to make it so will be the object of his labors, and he trusts to the hearty co-operation of the officers and men to accomplish this end.

By command of Brigadier-General Kautz:

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

* See Vol. XXXIII, p. 549.

FORT MAGRUDER, *June* 4, 1864.

Lieutenant SCHROEDER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

The following message from Jamestown Island just received:

SIR: I have the honor to report that the steam-barge Mayflower has just stopped, and reports that the rebels opened on them with a battery of three pieces at the Point of Shoals, about 5 miles below here. They also report a gun-boat ashore.

C. H. LIBEAN,
Lieutenant, Commanding Post, Jamestown Island.

W. H. P. STEERE,
Colonel, Commanding.

JAMESTOWN, *June* 4, 1864.

Lieut. H. T. SCHROEDER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

The following was left here from headquarters Wilson's Wharf, June 4:

CAPTAIN OF THOMAS POWELL OR OTHER TRANSPORT:

On your passage down you will stop at Jamestown Island and telegraph thence to Fort Monroe that the enemy have a light battery on the south bank of the James, opposite Middle Light, Point of Shoals, below Hog Point, and have fired upon our steamers. Request that gun-boats be sent up from Newport News to shell them out.

Respectfully, yours,

EDWD. A. WILD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

[OPERATOR.]

FORT MONROE, *June* 4, 1864.

General SHEPLEY:

Following dispatch has been received from West Point, June 4, to George D. Sheldon, manager telegraph line:

I have guards stationed day and night at each end of the cable. There are 38 miles line from here to Gloucester Point. It will require 50 mounted men to patrol line properly. There are 20 here now. The balance had better come over line to this point and report to Lieutenant McGee, and he will station them so that they can go over every part of the line each day, and have 10 men in reserve at each end for escort to repairers.

WM. MACINTOSH,
Line Builder.

I would recommend that the disposition of the forces asked for be made.

H. T. SCHROEDER,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DIST. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., June 4, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
A. A. G., Hdqrs. Dept. of Va. and N. C., in the Field:

MAJOR: I respectfully request that a few of the surf-boats, which I understand are now at Norfolk or Fort Monroe, may be sent to me. I wish to land quickly on the shore, near Masonborough Inlet,

about 1,000 men, and if I can have ten or even six of those surf-boats this landing can be effected without difficulty. If this can be done, and I have every confidence that it can, there is a fair chance of our being able to surprise Fort Fisher. If we cannot do that, the expedition can be turned into a raid that may call off no small force from Virginia. The naval forces off Wilmington will co-operate, but I find that they have not the means of landing the men as rapidly as is necessary. Fearing that you may not be at Fort Monroe at this time, I shall write to Colonel Biggs, urging him to send the boats.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 5, 1864.

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff of the Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: A full survey of all the ground satisfies me that it would not be practicable to hold a line northeast of Richmond that would protect the Fredericksburg railroad, to enable us to use it for supplying the army. To do so would give us a long vulnerable line of road to protect, exhausting much of our strength in guarding it, and would leave open to the enemy all of his lines of communication on the south side of the James. My idea from the start has been to beat Lee's army, if possible, north of Richmond, then, after destroying his lines of communication north of the James River, to transfer the army to the south side and besiege Lee in Richmond, or follow him south if he should retreat. I now find, after more than thirty days of trial, that the enemy deems it of the first importance to run no risks with the armies they now have. They act purely on the defensive, behind breast-works, or feebly on the offensive immediately in front of them, and where in case of repulse they can instantly retire behind them. Without a greater sacrifice of human life than I am willing to make, all cannot be accomplished that I had designed outside of the city. I have, therefore, resolved upon the following plan: I will continue to hold substantially the ground now occupied by the Army of the Potomac, taking advantage of any favorable circumstance that may present itself, until the cavalry can be sent west to destroy the Virginia Central Railroad from about Beaver Dam for some 25 or 30 miles west. When this is effected, I will move the army to the south side of James River, either by crossing the Chickahominy and marching near to City Point, or by going to the mouth of the Chickahominy on the north side and crossing there. To provide for this last and most probable contingency six or more ferry-boats of the largest class ought to be immediately provided. Once on the south side of the James River I can cut off all sources of supply to the enemy, except what is furnished by the canal. If Hunter succeeds in reaching Lynchburg that will be lost to him also. Should Hunter not succeed I will still make the effort to destroy the canal by sending cavalry up the south side of the river with a pontoon train to cross wherever they can. The feeling of the two armies now seems to be that the rebels can protect themselves only by strong intrenchments, while our

army is not only confident of protecting itself without intrenchments, but that it can beat and drive the enemy wherever and whenever he can be found without this protection.

Very respectfully,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 5, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The object of the cavalry expedition to Charlottesville and Gordonsville is to effectually break up the railroad connection between Richmond and the Shenandoah Valley and Lynchburg. To secure this end they should go as far as Charlottesville, and work upon the Lynchburg branch and main line to Staunton for several miles beyond the junction. This done they could work back this way to where the road is already destroyed, or until driven off by a superior force. It is desirable that every rail on the road destroyed should be so bent or twisted as to make it impossible to repair the road without supplying new rails. After the work is accomplished, herein directed, the cavalry will rejoin the main army, keeping north of the Pamunkey until the position of the army is known to them. It may be found necessary to keep on the north side as far down as West Point. Instructions will be sent to General Hunter by the cavalry expedition. He will be required to join his force to General Sheridan's and return with him to the Army of the Potomac. If it is found practicable, whilst the cavalry is at the most westerly point reached by it, to detach a brigade or more to go over to the James River and destroy the canal, it will be a service well repaying for three or four days' detention.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

COLD HARBOR, VA., *June 5*, 1864—7 p. m.
(Received 6th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The object of sending troops to Mobile now would not be so much to assist General Sherman against Johnston as to secure for him a base of supplies after his work is done. Mobile also is important to us and would be a great loss to the enemy. Let the 100-days' men, such of them as you have to spare, move on.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: Any communication by flag of truce will have to come from you, as the enemy do not recognize me as in command whilst you are present.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

COLD HARBOR, VA., *June* 5, 1864.

General R. E. LEE.
Commanding Confederate Army:

It is reported to me that there are wounded men, probably of both armies, now lying exposed and suffering between the lines occupied respectively by the two armies. Humanity would dictate that some provision should be made to provide against such hardships. I would propose, therefore, that hereafter when no battle is raging either party be authorized to send to any point between the pickets or skirmish lines, unarmed men bearing litters to pick up their dead or wounded without being fired upon by the other party. Any other method equally fair to both parties you may propose for meeting the end desired, will be accepted by me.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 5, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding U. S. Armies:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date proposing that hereafter, except in time of action, either party be at liberty to remove the dead and wounded from between the lines. I fear that such an arrangement will lead to misunderstanding and difficulty. I propose, therefore, instead, that when either party desires to remove their dead or wounded, a flag of truce be sent, as is customary. It will always afford me pleasure to comply with such a request as far as circumstances will permit.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 28. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 5, 1864.

1. Brig. Gen. J. G. Barnard, U. S. Volunteers, having reported for duty to the lieutenant-general commanding, is hereby announced as chief engineer of the armies in the field, and will be respected and obeyed accordingly.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. S. PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
Camp near Cold Harbor, June 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that the White House depot is fully established and in most efficient operation. All needful supplies of

subsistence, forage, clothing, intrenching tools, &c., are on hand there for issue. Wharves are built and assigned for the accommodation of different staff departments. The depot is under the immediate charge of Capt. P. P. Pitkin, assistant quartermaster, who has a competent force of officers, employés, and material, and who can transfer the establishment to James River in a few hours' notice. The depots for this army have been established and kept up generally under my direct supervision and orders, and local commanders have never been permitted to interfere with the details. It is not probable that any unauthorized officer will ever intervene between these headquarters and our depot, but to avoid the possibility of such an occurrence, I would most respectfully suggest that the general commanding announce in orders that I shall be charged with the direct location, organization, and supervision of our depots, under his general directions. Such duties have actually been performed by me. It is so understood by the Quartermaster-General. I would ask that the commander of the troops at White House station be instructed to furnish guards, &c., for the protection of the depot, and to picket all the approaches to it. There should be a force at Cumberland, near the bar. He should have a chief quartermaster immediately under his orders, who can provide supplies for his command, by requisition, in the usual and prescribed manner, and who should make the necessary reports to me.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

RUFUS INGALLS,

Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
June 5, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A private from the Thirty-fourth North Carolina Regiment (Scales' brigade) came into our lines voluntarily this morning about 10 o'clock. He represents Scales' brigade as being on the extreme right of A. P. Hill's corps, and touching a swamp at the source of a stream running into the Chickahominy below Duane's Bridge. At this point Wilcox's division forms a very abrupt turn, some 250 yards in front of the Adams house. General Scales' headquarters are at the Adams house. On the opposite side of this swamp the line is continued by General Hoke's command, which extends to the Chickahominy. Informant is certain that Hoke's old brigade, Clingman's, and he thinks a South Carolina brigade, are commanded by Hoke. General Elzey's reserves, consisting of Government employés and the home guard of Richmond, are opposite General Hoke's line on the south side of the Chickahominy. Informant left Richmond on Wednesday morning last, with 30 other conscripts that were assigned to Scales' brigade. They first reported at the headquarters of the provost-marshal-general to the left of the Mechanicsville turnpike, about 3 miles from Richmond. He saw here a large amount of cavalry, said to be William H. F. Lee's division. The cavalry guard said they were preparing for a raid on our right in the direction of Fredericksburg. Informant

saw negroes at work on fortifications about 2 miles out of the city which were very extensive; also, at work leveling off old fortifications between this line and the Chickahominy. Informant says that in a conversation between General Scales and another officer he heard the general say that they had only one line of battle; informant could not say whether he meant the entire line or was only speaking of his own division. He knows very little of the line except about his own brigade. He thinks Breckinridge is on the left of Wilcox's division. General Lee's headquarters are at the house of Dr. Gaines.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

P. S.—Captain Paine, topographical engineer, was present during the examination of this man.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—6 a. m.

Corps commanders will report the condition of affairs on their front, and what progress, if any, was made during the night in advancing on the enemy.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 153. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The troops composing the command brought to this army by Col. A. A. Gibson, Second Pennsylvania Artillery, are assigned as follows, and will join their respective commands without delay: Twenty-seventh New York Battery, to Ninth Corps, to which it belongs; Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, to Eighteenth Corps; Tenth New York Heavy Artillery, to Eighteenth Corps; One hundred and eighty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, to Fifth Corps; Second Maryland Volunteers, to Fifth Corps;* detachments Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, Second Corps, to which this regiment belongs; detachments Ninth New York Heavy Artillery, Sixth Corps, to which the regiment belongs; detachment Sixteenth Michigan Volunteers, Fifth Corps, to which the regiment belongs; detachments One hundred and fortieth and One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Second Corps, to which the regiments belong; First Delaware Cavalry (dismounted and armed as infantry), Sixth Army Corps; Lieut. C. H. Peirce and detachments Battery F, Third Artillery, and C, Fourth Artillery, Cavalry Corps, with which the batteries are serving; detachment Twenty-second New York Cavalry, Cavalry Corps, to which the regiment belongs. Lieutenant Day, with the detachment of engineer troops under his command, will report at these headquarters for orders.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

* Changed to the Ninth Corps by paragraph 4, of same orders.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—4 p. m.

The following movements and changes are ordered for to-night, and will commence as soon after dark as practicable:

1. Major-General Warren will withdraw and move by way of Old Church to the vicinity of Leary's, about 2 miles in rear of Cold Harbor, where he will remain in reserve, prepared to move wherever required.

2. Major-General Burnside will change his position, keeping his left united with General Smith's right, in the best manner the ground admits of, and extend along Roundabout Creek and the Matadequin, past Allen's Mill, toward the fork of Old Church road, near the crossing of the Matadequin.

3. Major-General Smith will modify his right in the manner required by this change of position of General Burnside.

4. Brigadier-General Ferrero will hold his command ready to move on the morning of the 6th.

5. Major-General Hancock will extend his picket or skirmish line, with strong supports, to the nearest point of the Chickahominy, relieving the cavalry pickets in that space.

6. Major-General Sheridan will hold two divisions of his cavalry ready to carry out, at the time to be indicated, the special instructions which will be given him. A brigade of the remaining division will be posted at Old Church, and picket from the right of General Burnside to the Pamunkey. The other brigade will picket the Chickahominy from the left of General Hancock. The changes in the position of the cavalry will be made at such time and by such routes as not to interfere with the movements of the infantry.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SECOND CORPS,
June 5, 1864—7.45 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I shall have a detailed report of operations last night at 8 o'clock. My information now is that the two advanced points in front of General Gibbon and General Barlow are partially connected by a rifle-pit, which will be about 300 yards long when completed, and some 15 or 20 yards nearer the enemy than the one now held.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

SECOND CORPS,
June 5, 1864—1 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Can any arrangement be made by which the wounded in front of Barlow can be removed? I understand men wounded on the 3d are still lying there.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to Lieutenant-General Grant.

Is it possible to ask, under flag of truce, for permission to remove the wounded now lying between our lines, and which the enemy's sharpshooters prevent me bringing off?

The wounded are lying in front of the Second, Sixth, and Eighteenth Corps.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

A flag might be sent proposing to suspend firing where the wounded are, until each party get their own. I have no objection to such a course.*

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

SECOND CORPS,
June 5, 1864—1.15 p. m.

General GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: We picket along the Dispatch road, beyond the point where the enemy hold it to the Mechanicsville road, where we connect with the cavalry pickets. Have you any orders for Birney other than your verbal ones to me? The enemy are extending to the left and building works. I ought to leave one brigade of Birney's in reserve to form in part a second line for Gibbon.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. JOHN GIBBON,
Commanding Second Division, Second Corps:

GENERAL: General Meade informed me this morning that he had been told that night before last, when the enemy assaulted your line of Smyth and Owen, the enemy took your front line and that our artillery drove them out. As I had heard of no such thing I denied it, but I desire to hear from you on the subject.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 5, 1864.

This communication is respectfully referred to Brigadier-General Owen and Colonel Smyth, commanding Second and Third Brigades, who will please make statements of the facts in the case.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

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*See Meade to Grant, 1.30 p. m., p. 599.

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., SECOND CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

Maj. J. M. NORVELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to state that the information upon which statement of Major-General Meade, above referred to by Major-General Hancock, is entirely erroneous. My front line has not been driven one inch from the position assumed by me immediately after the assault on the morning of the 3d instant, although attacked three several times.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JOSHUA T. OWEN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 2D DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

Maj. J. M. NORVELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: In reply to the foregoing communication I have the honor to state that the report is false, and that on the contrary my command handsomely repulsed the enemy, took about 30 prisoners, including a lieutenant, and captured over 200 rifle muskets left in front of my line.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. A. SMYTH,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 5, 1864.

This communication was referred to General Owen and Colonel Smyth as a matter of form, for I felt sure, from the reports received at the time, from the fact that I found none of my command straggling to the rear, that the firing did not advance, and from the reflection that had my first and only line been broken, the enemy could not probably have been checked before that line had rallied behind my second line of rifle-pits, that General Meade's information was entirely erroneous. I should be pleased to know his authority for a statement which is so opposed to the facts of the case.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

[Fifth indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to General Williams, assistant adjutant-general, Army of the Potomac.

Colonel Smyth sent in 1 lieutenant and 33 enlisted men that night. Some heavy artillery, engaged as a working party, without

arms, did, I hear, get out of the way when the assault was made, but whether the report originated from that circumstance or from a fault too prevalent in this army to disparage the reputation of other commands which have been more successful in the campaign, I know not.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—1.50 p. m. (Received 2 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding directs me to state in reply to your dispatch that the order* about being issued requires you to extend your picket or skirmish line, with strong support, to the nearest point to the Chickahominy, relieving the cavalry pickets in that space. The cavalry will then picket the Chickahominy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SECOND CORPS,
June 5, 1864—4.10 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have sent over a prisoner of Thomas' brigade, Wilcox's division, A. P. Hill's corps. He says the troops now fighting in our front are Breckinridge's, supported by one division of Hill's corps, and that the other two divisions of Hill's corps are still farther to our right, and have not been engaged. He was captured by our pickets while he was out on a scout.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—5 p. m.

General [HUMPHREYS]:

I understand that General Wright's line is very short, and that he has many troops in reserve, and that General Burnside has a division in reserve, and that General Smith has reserves. Considering that Hill and Breckinridge are both in front of me, I would respectfully suggest whether General Wright could not relieve a portion of General Gibbon's line. General Gibbon has but one line, and I have had to keep a small brigade of General Birney in support of him which General Birney will require. General Barlow will have a second line. The major-general commanding will be able to decide.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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* See p. 603.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch of 5 p. m. received. I am directed by the commanding general to say that it is not practicable to relieve a portion of Gibbon's line by extending the line of the Sixth Corps. General Warren reports that he has been obliged to open a portion of his line to strengthen another part threatened by the enemy. Now that Birney's division has joined you, the commanding general decides that you must rely upon your own command to hold your line.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—7.10 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Colonel Lyman sends word that he has communicated with the enemy, and is waiting to know how soon he will be received.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—[9.10 p. m.]

General WILLIAMS:

There has been a very animated musketry and artillery fire, apparently commencing on General Wright's left or on my right and running to my left. No damage, apparently, has resulted, but the details I am not yet advised of.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—[10.15 p. m.]

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The musketry commenced to the right of General Gibbon, then swept toward Wright and then back along Gibbon's whole front. On General Barlow's line there was hardly a shot fired. I have not had complete reports from General Gibbon. The First Delaware (dismounted) Cavalry, encamped near the cross-roads—I do not know who they belong to—got into some trouble. My provost guard formed along the road, caught the regiment, officers and men, but now, since the firing has ceased and quiet is restored, they have returned to their camps.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—On the right the enemy fired on our pickets, who were intrenching themselves in the center. Colonel Smyth reports that

the enemy's skirmishers were crawling up on their hands and knees with troops behind them. He repulsed them. General Owen, on the left of Colonel Smyth, says that the enemy did not advance upon him, but fired upon him very heavily from their works, to which he replied.

Everything now is quiet as usual.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—10 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

What has become of Lyman? He need not wait for an answer. We can receive and forward it when delivered.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

General MEADE:

Nothing has been heard of Colonel Lyman since he went beyond my picket-line with one of my staff. I do not know that I will be able to communicate with him.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

A flag of truce has gone out on our left by the Dispatch road for the purpose of making some arrangements for taking in the wounded.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 5, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

General Gibbon reports that Colonel Smyth's brigade left some of its wounded very near the enemy's works, and that others were wounded in the attempt to get them off. It is probable that a considerable number of dead remain behind the line.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE,
June 5, 1864.

Regimental commanders are informed that a flag has been sent out from army headquarters proposing a cessation of hostilities for

a short time, to enable our troops to bring off the wounded in our front. The command will be held in readiness to cease firing at a moment's notice. During the truce, not a man or officer will be permitted outside the works, nor will they show themselves to the enemy in any manner. Regimental commanders will be held rigidly responsible that these orders are fully carried out. Notice will be given in due time if the truce is agreed upon. This information is published for the present for the information of regimental commanders only.

By order of Colonel Beaver, commanding brigade :

CHAS. P. HATCH,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—1 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS :

I am just informed by Lieutenant Houghton, of Colonel McIntosh's cavalry, that their nearest picket is 2 miles from my right flank. I am not capable of maintaining any position whatever, if that is all the co-operation I am to have. Officers being informed that two divisions of cavalry are on my right flank, it but gives me false assurances of being timely warned of the enemy's flank movements.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—1.20 a. m.

Major-General WARREN :

I would be obliged to you if you would not open fire from your left, as we are taking wounded over the road, and it would cause much annoyance to them.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—1.50 a. m.

Major-General WARREN :

Your dispatch of 1 a. m. is received. I have transmitted a copy of it to General Sheridan, commanding cavalry on the right, and informed him that the instructions to the cavalry on the right are to picket from the right of the infantry to the Pamunkey and to attack the rear of the left of the enemy. I am instructed to say that the commanding general expects the commander of the infantry corps on the right and the commander of the cavalry there to keep each other advised of every change that takes place in the position of each.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—3.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch* of 1 a. m. is received. My instructions are to cover the right flank of the army from the incursions of the enemy. This duty requires me to watch a line at least 4 miles in length. I don't understand that I am to place my command in your front, or to dispose it specially to take care of your flank, but my first object is to cover our trains, and in doing so to afford as much protection to this flank of the army as possible, by giving timely warning of all that I may learn of movements of the enemy. So much for general instructions, but permit me to observe, general, that till the receipt of your note, I had no information of your being on the right. My pickets and patrols are directed to connect and keep up communication with the right flank of the infantry line, and will do so as long as possible, but the infantry should not rely too much upon me for close connections, since I have so much country not only to watch but to guard from attacks of cavalry. I will instruct Colonel McIntosh, commanding the brigade at Haw's Shop, to do all in his power to keep you informed of rebel movements. General Torbert's division I understand to be close to your lines and sent to assist in the duties my division has been performing. It might be well to open communication with him. He is somewhere on the road from Linney's to Cold Harbor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

WARREN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 5, 1864—7.45 a. m.

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Affairs remain the same as last evening. With all my preparations, I was unable to make any advance during the night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—11.45 a. m. (Received 12.05 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that you will be withdrawn to-night by the right, and will probably move by the road past Parsley's Mill, Hopkins' Mill, Woody's, &c. General Burnside will be withdrawn also, and take position from the right of General Smith along the main branch of the Matadequin, past Allen's Mill toward the Old Church road. General Ferrero will take post at the forks of the Old Church road where it branches to Cold Harbor, to Parsley's, &c., and extend right and left. The major-general commanding directs that you make the preliminary arrangements for this movement. Further instructions will be sent you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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*See quotation in Wilson to Humphreys, 4 a. m., p. 631.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The commanding general directs me to inform you that instead of moving by the route indicated in my dispatch, you will move to Leary's, on the Old Church and Cold Harbor road, where the road branches to Parsley's Mill. You will be held in reserve there. The order directing that and other movements will be issued as soon as it can be prepared. General Ferrero will be directed not to take position until you have passed the forks, where he will be posted.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BURNSIDE'S,
June 5, 1864.

General WARREN:

What time do you propose to commence the withdrawal of your troops, and what time do you withdraw your pickets?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Preparatory to movements ordered for to-night, I would like to have you replace the brigade on the left of my line so that I can have my troops a little more in hand. A swamp at present separates it from the rest of Crawford's division, which swamp would make a good position for your right flank.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

FIFTH CORPS,
June 5, 1864—2.35 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Leary's is not on my map. Is it south or north of the Matadequin?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Leary's is about three-quarters of a mile from these headquarters—nearer Old Church. It is south of the Matadequin.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

JUNE 5, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

It is important for me to know if any orders have been issued to release my left brigade.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 5, 1864—[4.10 p. m.]

General S. WILLIAMS:

I expect there may be some difficulty in meeting the case presented by the remnant of the Pennsylvania Reserves, and as it is important to have something done at once, cannot the responsibility be assumed to muster the officers selected subject to the approval of the War Department?

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 5, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch has not been answered, because I have been out on the line which I have been ordered to take to-night, but had I been here it would have been impossible for me to have granted your request and fulfill my orders. I am directed to take up a new line some 3½ miles in length. Besides, having relieved one of General Smith's brigades on his extreme right, I am now laying out the line. I shall put all the reserve troops on it before dark.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

JUNE 5, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have asked General Burnside to relieve my left brigade, but he says he cannot do it and carry out your orders. I am apprehensive that my line is too weak. There is heavy skirmishing all the time and cheering in my front, and I have withdrawn that brigade, leaving only a skirmish line there. General Burnside's troops are near there if the enemy should make any demonstration on that point, which I do not think probable.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
June 5, 1864—6 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The orders for movement to-night just received from Captain Bates. There is a road I have had repaired that runs very direct

and nearly east from here to Leary's, and I believe is not to be used by any one. It strikes the road from Old Church to Cold Harbor a little south of the Matadequin Creek. I propose to take that route if there is no objection. It will not interfere with General Ferrero at all, or with General Burnside. Does my order to be prepared to move wherever required contemplate my moving from Leary's before daybreak?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 5, 1864—[6.15 p. m.]

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have just heard from a reconnoitering party I sent out on the Shady Grove road. They first found cavalry vedettes and then some infantry about the position of the advance line we had in that direction.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—6.45 p. m. (Received 6.50 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The road you mentioned crosses the head of Allen's mill-pond, and you would cross Burnside's troops extending from there toward the Old Church road. The order to be prepared to move wherever required does not contemplate your moving from Leary's before daylight.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—7.05 p. m. (Received 7.08 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The route you mentioned will not cut Burnside, since it is just concluded that he will only throw back his right to Bosher's. You can therefore use it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

The following reorganization of the Fifth Army Corps is hereby made:

First. The First Division will be commanded by Brig. Gen. C. Griffin. It will consist of General Bartlett's brigade, General Sweitzer's brigade, and the former Third Brigade, of the Fourth Division. This brigade will be commanded by Colonel Chamberlain. Colonel Bragg will rejoin his regiment. Three batteries will be attached to this division.

Second. The Second Division will be commanded by Brig. Gen. R. B. Ayres. It will consist of his own brigade, the Maryland Brigade, Colonel Dushane, and the Heavy Artillery Brigade, Colonel Kitching. Three batteries will also be assigned to this division.

Third. The Third Division will be commanded by Brig. Gen. S. W. Crawford. It will consist of the veteran brigade of Pennsylvania Reserves, and the brigades commanded by Colonels Lyle and Bates.

Fourth. The Fourth Division will be commanded by Brig. Gen. L. Cutler, and will consist of the two brigades of Colonel Robinson and Colonel Hofmann.

Fifth. The remaining six batteries will constitute the reserve artillery of the corps.

This order will go into effect at once, and each commanding officer will carry out his part of the changes ordered.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

[General GRIFFIN:]

GENERAL: The major-general commanding wishes me to inquire whether the firing heard in your front is the enemy pushing us, or our troops advancing.

Very respectfully,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

It is Colonel Sweitzer pushing out a line of skirmishers on the Shady Grove road, just beyond Barker's house.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
June 5, 1864—6 p. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: The enemy occupy the line vacated by General Burnside. Our line first struck cavalry, then infantry and two pieces of artillery. If this is satisfactory I will withdraw to my former line, as it will take a brigade to carry his intrenched line.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—7 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

If the enemy have forced your skirmish line so far back as to expose our movement to-night, drive them back again far enough to conceal it.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

[General GRIFFIN:]

GENERAL: General Warren directs that you withdraw just at dark.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant-Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

You can withdraw immediately after General Cutler. Leave your pickets on till 12 o'clock, and send an officer to me so that I can notify the different pickets to withdraw at the same time. Yours and Cutler's can rendezvous at my headquarters. As the head of your column passes my headquarters it will be put on the right road.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

JUNE 5, 1864—12.30 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I wish you would send me a brigade to the Bethesda Church, to be there at daybreak. General Burnside's whole corps is now on your left, and you can get support from him rapidly if needed.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 5, 1864.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: Cannot General Burnside relieve my Maryland Brigade, which is separated by a swamp from the brigade at its right? He has a second line in rear of this brigade and apparently abundance of troops to spare. If this is done I can strengthen the line weakened by the withdrawal of Bates. As it is I have my line broken by two swamps and it would be better to have the corps separated by such obstacles than the brigades of a division. The swamp would be a better termination of Burnside's line than the open field where it now is.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

The Reserves are not now on the line. They are at work organizing, but until the officers are recognized nothing can be done. The list goes to General Meade to-day.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 5, 1864—6.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

GENERAL: The field officer of the day reports that the enemy has greatly strengthened his picket-line within the last hour.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

You can begin withdrawing your troops at once. Leave your pickets on till 12 o'clock, and have an officer sent here to go and carry word to the officer in charge of your picket-line when it is time to withdraw, leaving some one to show them the road you take. I will send Bates' brigade with General Cutler. Send me word when the head of your column moves.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

General CUTLER:

Have your command in readiness to withdraw as soon as I send you word. Leave your pickets on and have an officer here at my headquarters to take word to the officer in charge of them when to withdraw. Take Bates' brigade along with your division. You will have to march about 4 miles and camp for the night. Bring the head of your brigade past my headquarters. I will send you word when to begin to move.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 5, 1864. (Received 6.45 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

General Neill, commanding my right division, advanced last night about 40 yards, and his works are now in advance of those on his right and left. General Ricketts constructed works upon the line held by his skirmishers yesterday. Very little progress was made by General Russell, except the establishing of new positions for guns.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—9 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The attack commenced on Russell's front has now stopped. Will bring in full report as soon as received from division commanders.

W. W. SANDERS,
Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 126. } HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS, *June* 5, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The First Delaware Cavalry Regiment (serving and armed as infantry) is assigned to Brigadier-General Russell, commanding First Division, and will report accordingly.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—1.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Do not think it will be well to open fire from my front. We arrived too late to establish batteries, and besides we are now carrying wounded over roads which would be right under the return fire of the enemy.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—2 a. m. (Received 3.10 a. m.)

General MEADE:

I have expected that telegraphic communication would be re-established before this, otherwise would have sent this by an orderly. Last night in riding over the ground with General Smith I found that the new position he pointed out for a position of my troops was in advance of his corps, instead of the division of General Birney, thereby relieving a portion of the Eighteenth Corps, which I was not ordered to do. I did not know that such was the case until just as I was riding off the ground, and as I was ordered to relieve General Birney and connect with General Smith, and at the same time hold as much of my force in reserve as possible, I decided to relieve Birney first, which took the divisions of Willcox and Potter, Birney's division being larger than both of them. Notwithstanding I was not ordered to relieve any portion of Smith's corps, I deemed it best, under the circumstances, to put in this new position a portion of Crittenden's division, which did not arrive until after dark. Major Morton reported to General Smith for that purpose, and was told by the general that he had better not commence the work until daylight. I shall put a force there at daybreak, unless otherwise ordered. Am I right? It was impossible for Major Morton to commence his approach understandingly last night, as it was so dark he could not see and was a stranger to the ground, and besides no working parties had been formed—we not having expected to be called upon for such work in this section of the line until after night-fall. We commence at daylight in the morning.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—3.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch concerning the relieving of part of Eighteenth Corps was received. Everything is satisfactory.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864. (Received 4.10 a. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE:

I thought it was understood that the lines which my troops occupy were not to be occupied by yours, and that the new lines which you were to take up would shorten yours, besides bringing my own troops already there in excess. I did not, therefore, think it necessary for these troops to wait to be relieved by others when I ordered them away.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

If you will put your left where you said you would, it would shorten your present line and therefore be more easily held, besides making the whole line continuous and stronger. I cannot afford to straddle that swamp, for I cannot communicate with sufficient facility. Ask for the chief engineer of the army to come and settle the matter, if you do not like the plan to which you agreed yesterday.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—10.25 [a. m.].

General MEADE,
Commanding the Army of the Potomac:

I omitted to report to you yesterday that the indications on the ground evacuated by the enemy yesterday in our front shows that their loss in the fight of Thursday evening and Friday was very severe—many of the dead were left unburied, and such as were buried were scarcely covered. They lost also a large number of battery horses, one caisson blown up, and one abandoned. Our loss in the two fights was very severe—Thursday night our loss was 350 and on Friday about 1,000. I hope to send you accurate returns to-day. Our men on both of these occasions behaved with great coolness and gallantry and are now in good spirits and condition. The work in advance of General Smith's old right is nearly finished, and we are endeavoring to gain a position about 80 or 100 yards beyond the advance line of General Birney yesterday, which will place us on a ridge that commands the enemy's skirmish pits and enable us to push our approaches with greater facility. We shall try to get some artillery

in advantageous positions during the day. I will have Major Morton send you a sketch of our new line as soon as it is established. Our rations were issued during the night and this morning, and all our wounded have been loaded and started for the rear. The artillery horses you ordered here yesterday are being distributed and our batteries will be in good trim before night. There is some difficulty in supplying forage, but we hope to overcome it.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that your position will be changed to-night and that it will extend from the right of General Smith, near the Widow Thomas' [Thompson's ?], along the main branch of the Matadequin past Allen's Mill, toward the road from Old Church where it forks to Cold Harbor, to Parsley's, &c. General Ferrero will be directed to hold this fork and extend right and left. It is understood you will, in the mean time, make all the preliminary arrangements for the change.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: Brig. Gen. James H. Ledlie, commanding a brigade in the First Division of this corps, I understand has not been confirmed, and as Congress adjourns to-morrow, he will be out of service unless he is confirmed on that day. He has behaved with great energy and gallantry since joining this command and I beg that you will, if possible, have the Senate confirm his nomination to-morrow.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—11.50 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I understand from one of my officers that Major Duane informed him that we were ordered to take a new position. I have received no such order, and lest it may have miscarried, I send this dispatch requesting duplicate.

A E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—12.15 [p. m.].

General SETH WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have received Special Orders, No. 153, and beg to state that the Second Maryland is a veteran regiment, belonging to the Ninth Corps, just returned from furlough. It reported to me last night, and has been assigned to its division. It is a very small regiment, and I hope it may be allowed to remain where it is. It may not be amiss to state that this corps received none of the re-enforcements since the campaign commenced.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—12.25 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I understand that there are quite a number of men belonging to the Ninth Army Corps now with General Abercrombie, also some with General Patrick. Can they be sent to their command?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

You are authorized to retain the Second Maryland Regiment. The order consigning it to the Fifth Corps will be revoked. It was not known that the regiment belonged to your command.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your telegram of 12.25 is received. General Patrick will send you to-day all the men he has belonging to your command. General Abercrombie has been called upon for a field return of his command, and if it appears that he has any men belonging to the Ninth Corps they will be ordered to join you at once.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—4.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

After a careful inspection of the ground, accompained by Major Morton, I am satisfied that the line, in order to be at all secure with the small force we have, should run directly from the Woody house

to the head of Allen's mill-pond. The redoubt which is being built in front, on the right of General Smith's line, with the works connecting with it, will require nearly a brigade to hold it, and even with that it would be a very unsafe position, and the line from that point to Allen's Mill is certainly 2½ miles long, and from there to General Ferrero's position over a mile long. If we take up the line as directed in the order we will have but few obstructions in front, whilst we will have in rear of a greater portion of our line impassable swamps and ponds. I am clearly of the opinion that the line from here to the head of Smith's pond, thence to Allen's Mill along its south side, is altogether the strongest line. Will you be kind enough to lay this before the commanding general at once, and let me know the decision, as in either case nearly the entire line will have to be cut through the woods.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch received. The major-general commanding directs me to say that if you prefer to remain on your present line you can do so. General Warren will, however, withdraw, as directed. The commanding general desires a reply to this as soon as possible.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—6.35 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Warren reports that he has been obliged to withdraw a brigade from his left to meet threatening attacks elsewhere, leaving a picket-line there. The commanding general wishes you to look out for that part of General Warren's line.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. 3D DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The enemy's cavalry in small force have been feeling my picket-line from Butler's toward your right. They came down from the direction of Mechanicsville to Gibson's. My skirmishers have driven them off, and I shall send the Second New York to move out on a reconnaissance. The line to-night will consist of two regiments, under command of Colonel Harhaus, who will communicate with you.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—7.35 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The major-general commanding directs that instead of changing your position to the line of the Matadequin you throw back your right to Bosher's and extend a line of skirmishers beyond. The cavalry brigade covering the right will be at Linney's and picket from your right to the Pamunkey. General Ferrero is directed to concentrate his troops at Old Church.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864. (Received 7.45 p. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Has a detachment of the Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry, dismounted and armed as infantry, joined your command? It is reported that it is with Crittenden's division.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

The Thirteenth Ohio has not joined this command. I was under the impression, and so reported yesterday.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. } HDQRS. 2D DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS.
Near Cold Harbor, Va., June 5, 1864.

The commanding officer of the Second Regiment Maryland Volunteers, having reported, in accordance with Special Orders, No. 77, headquarters Ninth Army Corps, the regiment is hereby assigned to the Second Brigade, Col. S. G. Griffin commanding, and the commanding officer will report in person without delay for orders.

By command of Brig. Gen. R. B. Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—3.30 [a. m.].

General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: By direction from general headquarters, you will at once please send your reserve brigade to relieve the right brigade of General Smith. Please communicate with the general commanding the brigade, and have him relieved as rapidly as possible.

Yours, very truly,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
June 5, 1864—12 midnight.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The enemy's skirmishers advanced on my front at about 8.30 p. m., but were repulsed by ours. At the same time they threw canister on us from their right guns. At a late hour, when Colonel Christ was relieving his pickets, they opened again, but not with any artillery. The work on the redoubts which the rebels commenced this a. m. to the left of my line and in front of General Smith was discontinued this p. m. Two guns mean time were put in position, and opened on General Smith at the first advance. I would also mention that there has been a good deal of hacking of trees, but no trees are heard to fall. These several indications may possibly signify that the rebels are leaving my front. The skirmishers report that they hear wheels moving toward our left. Colonel Christ seems to think it probable that they are leaving. The work on the redoubt, &c., will continue, and if ready before daylight I will put in some guns.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Division:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Burnside will not occupy the line of the Matadequin, as directed in the order of to-day, but will merely throw back his right to one of the branches of that stream. The cavalry picketing on the right will not be established at Old Church, but at Linney's. The commanding general directs that you concentrate your troops at Old Church.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—1 a. m.

General MEADE:

The firing on my line was on account of an attempt of the enemy to advance his picket-line under heavy musketry, but it did not succeed.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The artillery firing in my vicinity heard to-night was from my own guns, and was begun because the enemy had opened on me with

musketry. I do not deem it advisable to make any demonstration on my lines with artillery to-night, because it will interfere with the work which is doing in my front, and because it will keep my troops from much needed rest.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 5, 1864—3.30 a. m. (Received 4.05 a. m.)

General W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

I have sent instructions to General Willcox to relieve your brigade on your right. Will you please have the brigade commander send an officer to report to General Willcox soon after daylight, for the purpose of conducting the brigade into the position previous to the removal of your troops. General Willcox is at the Woody house.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 5, 1864.

General SMITH:

When we rode along the position I thought the troops in rear of it belonged to Birney's division, and did not learn differently until just as I was leaving. My orders only contemplated relieving Birney, but I was, nevertheless, willing to relieve your brigade had General Warren relieved one of my divisions to get here before dark, which they did not do. Is the right of your line to rest on the work which Major Morton is to build? If so, my left will rest there. Please inform me fully, and I will try to co-operate.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

BURNSIDE'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 5, 1864—8 a. m.

General W. F. SMITH:

Your dispatch received.* I have seen Major Morton and am quite satisfied with the arrangement. In telegraphing you, I was simply desirous of ascertaining where your right was to be on the new line after the brigade was relieved. You are quite right in not wishing to straddle the swamp. The ground was more familiar to you yesterday than to myself, and as I did not know there was a swamp there, neither did I know the direction of your line, and believing the Second Corps was in rear instead of the Eighteenth, I may be excused for troubling you so much. The line is being constructed from the left of our line proper to the swamp, and will be occupied by our troops.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

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*See Smith to Burnside, p. 618.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Major-General SMITH:

I am awaiting your report of last night's operations and progress.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—11.30 a. m. (Received 11.35 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that Major-General Burnside will be withdrawn and take position from your right, near Mrs. Thomas' [Thompson's ?], along the main branch of the Matadequin, past Allen's Bridge, toward the Old Church road. General Warren will be withdrawn altogether. General Burnside is directed to make careful examinations in the vicinity of your right for the establishment of his left and his connection with you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

PRIVATE.] HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I wish to explain a point to you, which I think you will comprehend. It will also be explanatory of my call this p. m. Your telegram says: "Major-General Burnside will be withdrawn to-night and take position from your right, near Mrs. Thomas', along the main branch of the Matadequin, past Allen's Bridge, toward the Old Church road. General Warren will be withdrawn altogether. General Burnside is directed to make careful examinations in the vicinity of your right for the establishment of his left and his connection with you." This in a telegram to General Smith. The only map we had to give us information regarding the new line I send to you. Nothing was indicated there that General Burnside would hold on our right, as is now proposed, nor does the map we have show the true line. The line, the map I have sent you, shows a decidedly acute angle for the new line, breaking nearly short off on the right of our line. You will see from this why I came over from General Smith to make some explanation of our position, thinking there might be some misapprehension somewhere. I write this of my own accord solely, and to justify my mission from General Smith, which I know you will appreciate.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—7.05 p. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH, *Comdg. Eighteenth Army Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Burnside will merely throw back his right to Bosher's, and not take up the position along the main branch of the Matadequin.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 5, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have plenty of forage, rations, and intrenching tools for myself, and to return all that have been sent to me when I arrived without anything. I also owe some 50,000 rounds of ammunition, which I can repay in a day. I will be able to accommodate any corps who may wish to borrow to a reasonable amount.

I am, general, very respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—11.15 p. m.

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Will you please send the message I have just sent you forward by first opportunity.* Will you also please inform me when the telegraph is completed to White House and Fort Monroe?

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

Captain VAN NESS, *Acting Chief Quartermaster:*

CAPTAIN: The general commanding directs that you send the Metamora down to Old Point to be turned over to Colonel Biggs, with a note asking him to store the property now on board in some safe place. As soon as your wagons are fairly started you will report here. Send the engineer tools to Captain Pitkin. We have all we need. Captain Butler will hurry up everything and report here as soon as possible. The general desires you to use all dispatch in joining headquarters. We shall need a few more tents. Bring all of our men, guards, &c., sending Lieutenant Smith and a few of them to turn over to Colonel Biggs our things for storage. Everything has been done in our power to stop the interference of Army of the Potomac headquarters, but in vain. Bring all your assistants. If possible leave some one to forward transportation and join us at once.

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See Bowen to Van Ness, next following.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

Captain HILL,
Acting Chief Commissary of Subsistence, 18th Corps:

CAPTAIN: The general commanding desires me to say that he has reported the state of affairs at White House to General Meade, but with evidently no good result. He (General Smith) directs that you turn everything, except what you have started forward, over to the Army of the Potomac and with your assistants, guards, &c., join us as soon as possible.

I am, captain, very respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires you to send a staff officer at once to General Willcox, to ascertain the exact condition of affairs on your right, the position of his line, his pickets, artillery, &c., which please report as soon as possible to these headquarters. It may be necessary to make an official report of the same, so please instruct your aide to make a thorough personal inspection.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

If the aide reports the redoubt occupied only by a strong picket reserve, report to me in writing, and throw your right regiment back along the creek or swamp, its left resting on the right battery.

By command, &c.:

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—1.40 a. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

By the direction of the major-general commanding I inclose a copy of a dispatch* just received from Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps, now on the right of the army. The instructions to the cavalry on the right are to picket from the right of the infantry to the Pamunkey, and to attack the rear of the left of the enemy. The commanding general expects communication to be maintained between the cavalry commander on the right and the commander of the infantry corps on that flank, so that they will be mutually advised of every change that takes place in the position of each other.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

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*See Warren to Humphreys, 1 a. m. June 5, p. 609.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Old Church Tavern, June 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

General Wilson reports the connections with General Warren complete since some time last night, and the reason why the connection was broken was the withdrawal of some army corps without any notification to the cavalry. Infantry commanders are very quick to give the alarm when their flanks are uncovered, but manifest inexcusable stupidity about the safety of cavalry flanks.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

Your note of this morning is received. The cavalry on the right were directed to picket from the right of the army (which when the changes then going on were completed would be in the vicinity of Bethesda Church) through Haw's Shop to the Pamunkey. Yesterday morning the enemy were found to have withdrawn from Burnside's front, which has been "*en potence*," and Warren and Burnside were directed to contract to the left, so that the right of the army would rest as it had been before ordered to do, near Bethesda Church. General Burnside was in constant communication with the cavalry up to that time, and, it was expected, would communicate to the cavalry the contraction of his line and pickets, by which the pickets, not the position of the cavalry, would be modified. Subsequently, and after this contraction on the part of Burnside and Warren had been in progress, to expedite the relief of certain troops on the left, General Warren's contraction was stopped and General Burnside was transferred to his left, the right of General Warren resting in the vicinity of Bethesda Church. This change of orders was made some hours after the direction to contract had been given, and did not change the right of the army, which, whether Burnside or Warren formed it, was to rest near Bethesda Church. The commanding general directs me to say that the commanders of infantry corps are instructed to keep in communication with the commanders of cavalry on their flanks, but that they have sometimes reported they have been unable, with the means at their disposal, to do so, and that they could find neither the cavalry pickets nor the commanders of them. A close and constant communication should be kept up between the cavalry and the infantry on the flanks.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to furnish the following instructions for your guidance in the execution of the duty

referred to in the order for movements and changes of position to-night, a copy of which order * accompanies this communication: With two divisions of your corps you will move on the morning of the 7th instant to Charlottesville and destroy the railroad bridge over the Rivanna, near that town. You will then thoroughly destroy the railroad from that point to Gordonsville, and from Gordonsville toward Hanover Junction, and to the latter point, if practicable. The chief engineer, Major Duane, will furnish you a canvas pontoon train of eight boats. The chief quartermaster will supply you with such tools, implements, and materials as you may require for the destruction of the road. Upon the completion of this duty you will rejoin this army.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—7.10 p. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that General Burnside will not occupy the line of the Matadequin, but will merely throw back his right to Bosher's. The cavalry on the right should, therefore, picket from that vicinity across to the Pamunkey, passing near Linney's, where the cavalry brigade should be, instead of at Old Church. I inclose tracing of sketch† showing position of Bosher's, &c.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

By direction of the major-general commanding, I transmit herewith, for your guidance, instructions‡ from Lieutenant-General Grant, commanding Armies of the United States, in regard to the operations assigned to you, which modify somewhat the instructions upon that subject already given you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Old Church Tavern, June 5, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Torbert's division is now posted near Haw's Shop, and General Wilson's division near Mrs. Via's house. Shall I withdraw

*See p. 603. † Not found. ‡ See Grant to Meade, June 5, p. 599.

these divisions and hold them in readiness to carry out the order furnished me this evening? I propose to send one brigade of General Wilson's division to relieve General Gregg's command, now on the left of the army, and hold the other brigade of said division on the right of the army, to take with me the divisions of Generals Gregg and Torbert.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Old Church Tavern, June 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The inclosed report, received from Brigadier-General Gregg, commanding Second Cavalry Division, stating everything quiet on his front.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Bottom's Bridge, Va., June 5, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Col. J. W. FORSYTH,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report all quiet here this morning. During the night the enemy recrossed the river at Fisher's Ford. At this ford on the south side of the river the enemy have dug rifle-pits and have a number of sharpshooters. It is probable that they crossed to this side with the purpose of capturing our dismounted men along the river under cover of their artillery fire.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 5, 1864.

Maj. M. H. BEAUMONT,
Comdg. Dismounted Battalion, Second Div., Cav. Corps:

MAJOR: The Thirteenth Ohio Mounted Infantry having been assigned to this division, Major Cherry, commanding, has been ordered to report with the portion of his regiment now mounted at the dismounted battalion of the division. You will at once proceed to dismount the force under command of Major Cherry. The horses and equipments you will use in mounting and equipping the dismounted veterans of the division. Should there be more than enough horses to mount the veterans, you will in mounting dismounted men give preference to those of the First Brigade of this division. The Thirteenth Ohio Mounted Infantry, dismounted, will remain with your battalion, and you will forward the mounted veterans to the division with the least practicable delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—4 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following has just been received from General Warren:

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 5, 1864—1 a. m.

General WILSON:

I understand from headquarters Army of the Potomac that you are to watch my right flank and give me notice of any efforts to turn it. Lieutenant Houghton informs me that your nearest pickets are 2 miles off from my flank. On May 30 I was told that the cavalry would guard my flank, and they did not, so that the enemy attacked me from where they should have been. If your instructions do not require you to connect with me, then I am misinformed by high authority.

It is difficult, particularly during the night, to keep up close communication with the right of the army, and to watch at the same time effectually the movements of the enemy. The line for me to guard from the right flank of the army to the Pamunkey is too long for my division alone. Would it not be well to order General Torbert, who is with his command near Cold Harbor, to this vicinity, with a view to have him perform part of the duty? I have not been informed of the movements on our line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

Your dispatch of 4 a. m. is received. The enemy having withdrawn from General Burnside's front yesterday morning, General Warren and General Burnside were directed to contract to the left, so that the right of the army (the right of the Ninth Corps) would rest in the vicinity of Bethesda Church. As General Burnside was in constant communication with you at the time, it was expected that he would communicate to you the changes required in his picket-line, by which to govern yours. It required no change of your position, merely of a part of your picket-line. Several hours subsequently, and when the contraction had partly taken place, General Burnside was directed to transfer his corps to the left of General Warren, in order to expedite the relief of certain troops there, General Warren's right taking the place of General Burnside's right in the vicinity of Bethesda Church. The order requiring another cavalry division to be sent to the right of the army directed it to be united to yours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CAVALRY DIVISION,
Ruffin's House, June 5, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS:

Your communication of 8 o'clock is just received. I have three regiments on the picket-line from the right of the army to the Pamunkey; two between Butler's and Allen's Mills, where they connect with the infantry, and the other from Linney's along the Totopotomoy to the river. About 6 o'clock the rebel cavalry (not over a company) came down the road by Gibson's and felt along our line. They were driven back. Early to-morrow morning the colonel commanding that part of the line is ordered to make a demonstration toward Bethesda. On the left of the army the disposition of the force is the same that Gregg had made. All the crossings between the left of the infantry and a point 4 miles below are strongly guarded, and patrols are watching the river below. I shall report the precise arrangement to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

FORT MONROE, *June 5, 1864.*

General WILLIAMS:

Your telegram received last evening directs me to hold all bridging not ordered away by superior authority. I telegraphed you on the 31st that General Halleck, whose order named no superior authority to himself, had ordered the Rappahannock bridge to General Butler. Since this I have received your order twice to retain it here. Whether given after your receipt of my report or not I am uncertain. Please direct me if I am to send it up, as I expect it here in a few hours from York River. I will send copies of telegrams on the 2d instant.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

FORT MONROE, *June 5, 1864.*

General WILLIAMS:

Your dispatches of 5.20 and 6 p. m. yesterday just received, and in compliance with them I shall put my men in camp on shore and turn over the two steamers, retaining, however, the barges with the siege material and wagons for it. I forwarded to you, the moment it was received on the 31st, the order of General Halleck about these bridges, and, supposing it was received, was left in doubt by your orders received three or four days after. I presume the bridge brought by Colonel Gibson is Captain Slosson's, from Port Royal, and shall, now, of course, send it to General Butler immediately on its arrival here, hourly expected, as I sent an officer in a steamer for it up the York River the night before last. I sent a telegram of inquiry this morning, which, of course, your dispatch just received is a full reply to.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Fort Monroe, June 5, 1864—2 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

The bridge from Port Royal and White House, 460 feet, under Captain Slosson, is just in. According to the tenor of the order on the subject, I have ordered it up the river to General Butler.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1864—8.15 p. m. (Received 7 a. m. 6th.)

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

The bridge train brought to the army by Colonel Gibson, Second Pennsylvania Artillery, consisted of nineteen boats. The boats will be distributed to the other trains with the army. The train was under the charge of Captain Henderson.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *June 5*, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Will you please inform me if Captain Slosson and his company of Fifteenth New York Engineers, and his pontoon bridge from the Rappahannock, are with you? I have just been directed by General Meade to hunt them up, and order them down here to Fortress Monroe. Possibly, however, it is intended that they should eventually be up the river

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Comdg. Engineer Brigade.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 5, 1864. (Received 7 a. m. 6th.)

General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

Captain Slosson is not here. Captain Robbins, Fiftieth New York Engineers, about two weeks ago heard of him at Port Royal, on the Rappahannock. General Butler's compliments, and would like to see General Benham here if convenient.

C. J. PAINE,
Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

JUNE 5, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
White House, Va.:

All vessels leaving White House, on the Pamunkey, must be inspected, and all stragglers ejected and sent back to their commands.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, June 5, 1864.

General JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

The telegraph wire between this place and West Point and beyond has been tampered with. I inclose herewith telegrams* from the operator at West Point; also communications* from operator here. I have sent all my available cavalry force, 125 mounted men, to West Point.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, June 5, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

As the cars will be running to Tunstall's Station by noon on Tuesday next, and Dispatch Station by 6 p. m. same day, I would respectfully request that the supply trains stop at this point, as I shall not be able to furnish the necessary [guard] from the troops retained here after those going to the front have left.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BALTIMORE, *June 5, 1864.*
(Received 12 m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The First Maryland Veteran Volunteer Cavalry, and Battery D, First Maryland Artillery, leave here this morning to report to General Augur at Washington. Four of the companies of the cavalry are mounted and will march from the Relay House. The battery has horses but no guns. They all go by railroad.

LEW. WALLACE,
Major-General.

FARRAR'S ISLAND, VA., *June 5, 1864—10 p. m.*
(Received 4.15 p. m. 6th.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

If General Grant swings around to James River, a dredging-machine to deepen the channel heretofore cut through Trent's Reach bar will be wanted immediately to enable the monitors to pass up. Nothing new.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT, &C.,
In the Field, June 5, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel BIGGS,
Chief Quartermaster:

COLONEL: General Butler directs me to inquire whether the saw-mills at Sewell's Point, Tanner's Creek, Warwick, Portsmouth, Newport News, and others, if any, are running. Also, whether you can supply lumber for the use of this army. If you cannot supply lumber, he desires to be informed of the reason.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. PAINE,
Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

BERMUDA, *June 5, 1864.*

General BUTLER:

The Hero of Jersey arrived this a. m. She was fired into at the same place they fired into the Mayflower. Two small 6-pounder shells went through her; no damage.

FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

JUNE 5, 1864.

[General BUTLER:]

GENERAL: Have heard from my force at West Point by telegraph, so presume they have connected Fortress Monroe with Grant.

Respectfully,

R. O'BRIEN.

GILLMORE'S,
June 5, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

My lookout reports seeing some light artillery, estimated as two batteries, come to Chaffin's Bluff battery and pass down the river there. Some fires have appeared back of Chaffin's Bluff to-day like camp-fires. Some mounted officers appeared on the green on Farrar's Island as if on a reconnaissance this p. m. After our firing some of the enemy's batteries opened on Battery No. 3, and one gun from Dr. Howlett's of pretty large caliber. Captain Foster has gone to report to you.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S,
June 5, 1864—3.40 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have fired twelve times from Battery 3 at the point from which the enemy fired last. Caused no reply; only saw a few heads above their parapet.

GILLMORE,
General.

GILLMORE'S,
June 5, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The rebels fired three return shots, apparently from the 12-pounder gun. Several heads are visible along their line, but I think not so many as heretofore.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GILLMORE'S, *June* 5, 1864.

Col. C. J. PAINE:

There was no communication other than the one which I have forwarded addressed to the officer commanding the Federal forces, &c. The flag came out, and on being met delivered the letter and returned.

A. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, *June* 5, 1864—1 p. m.

General BUTLER:

The commander of the pickets reports that heavy trains have been running between Richmond and Petersburg or in corresponding direction since 3 this a. m. The sounds from the railroad have been distinct and clear, and sentinels state that they have heard what they suppose to be drums in the same direction and at a great distance.

HINKS,
Brigadier-General.

JUNE 5, 1864.
(Received 2.45 p. m.)

General HINKS:

Send out scouts and see if you can confirm your news of large trains running from Petersburg. Put a watch with a good glass at the point near Spring Hill, where I watched the other day, to watch as long as daylight lasts, and so into the night with reliefs, for a railroad train can be seen in the night.

B. F. BUTLER,
General.

JUNE 5, 1864—4 p. m.

Colonel AMES, *Spring Hill:*

Is it true that Fort Clifton has been evacuated by the enemy? Answer quickly.

BUTLER,
General.

SPRING HILL, *June* 5, 1864—4.30 p m.

General BUTLER:

No guns were visible at Fort Clifton yesterday and only 1 man. I have just sent an officer to a point on the bank from which the fort is best exposed to view. Will report again on his return.

AMES,
Colonel.

JUNE 5, 1864—4.40 p. m.

Colonel AMES:

Send out Captain Dollard with his company to discover the position of the enemy and obtain all possible information.

HINKS,
General.

SPRING HILL STATION, *June* 5, 1864—6 p. m.

General B. F. BUTLER:

I have just made an inspection of Fort Clifton. There are no guns to be seen. A signal station is still there, perhaps a dozen men in all visible.

AMES,
Colonel.

OUTER OFFICE, *June* 5, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

We fired about a dozen shots from Battery No. 3, after which the enemy fired three from a battery on their left, apparently at our pickets. All quiet now.

O. B. IRELAND,
Lieutenant and Signal Operator.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 5, 1864.

General SHEPLEY:

The Mayflower and Hero of Jersey were fired into at Day's Point, the latter struck by 2 small 6-pounder shells. General Butler wishes you to send up and drive the party away.

C. J. PAINE,
Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, June 6, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
General-in-Chief:

GENERAL: It is quite probable that the present campaign may result in heavy siege work, and your own experience at Vicksburg must have shown you the need of a sufficient number of engineer officers. Every corps should have an engineer officer at headquarters, and so far as practicable every division. I would recommend that all the engineer officers not now in the field, fit for field duty, and whom it may be possible to spare from the duties on which they are engaged, be ordered to the Army of the Potomac. Brigadier-General Woodbury (lieutenant-colonel of engineers) now commanding at Key West, would from his ability and knowledge of this country, be a great acquisition. The only objection in his case, and that of some others, would be the want of rank in the present meri-

torious and capable chief engineer of the Army of the Potomac, Major Duane. I noticed the great value of Coehorn mortars in the trenches of this position. Whether needed here or not, similar circumstances may arise elsewhere, and I mention them under the impression that if needed the Ordnance Department may not be able to furnish them at short notice. In view of possible siege operations it would be well to collect a siege train at Fort Monroe.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. G. BARNARD,
Chief Engineer Armies in the Field.

COLD HARBOR, VA., *June* 6, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

Your communication of yesterday's date is received. I will send immediately, as you propose, to collect the dead and wounded between the lines of the two armies, and will also instruct that you be allowed to do the same. I propose that the time for doing this be between the hours of 12 m. and 3 p. m. to-day. I will direct all parties going out to bear a white flag, and not to attempt to go beyond where we have dead or wounded, and not beyond or on ground occupied by your troops.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 6, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date and regret to find that I did not make myself understood in my communication of yesterday. I intended to say that I could not consent to the burial of the dead and the removal of the wounded between the armies in the way you propose, but that when either party desire such permission it shall be asked for by flag of truce in the usual way.

Until I receive a proposition from you on the subject to which I can accede with propriety, I have directed any parties you may send under white flags as mentioned in your letter to be turned back.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

COLD HARBOR, VA., *June* 6, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

The knowledge that wounded men are now suffering from want of attention, between the two armies, compels me to ask a suspension of hostilities for sufficient time to collect them in, say two hours. Permit me to say that the hours you may fix upon for this will be

agreeable to me, and the same privilege will be extended to such parties as you may wish to send out on the same duty, without further application.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 6, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *Commanding U. S. Armies:*

GENERAL: I regret that your letter of this date asking a suspension of hostilities to enable you to remove your wounded from between the two armies was received at so late an hour as to make it impossible to give the necessary directions so as to enable you to effect your purpose by daylight.

In order that the suffering of the wounded may not be further protracted, I have ordered that any parties you may send out for the purpose between the hours of 8 and 10 p. m. to-day shall not be molested, and will avail myself of the privilege extended to those from this army to collect any of its wounded that may remain upon the field.

I will direct our skirmishers to be drawn close to our lines between the hours indicated, with the understanding that at the expiration of the time they be allowed to resume their positions without molestation, and that during the interval all military movements be suspended.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864. (Received 7 a. m. 7th.)

Capt. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report:

Apparently no change in enemy's position opposite Bottom's Bridge. A small earth-work has been erected since last evening on the Garthright plantation, about 600 yards west of the river. This work can be seen from Savage's farm on east side of the river. There are no guns in it. The floor of the railroad bridge over the Chickahominy with the track upon it is in good order. On the railroad, about 250 yards south of the bridge, the enemy have in position on the track a movable iron-clad battery, with one port-hole in it. This battery presents the appearance of being a burden car having at one end a shield of iron plating sloping upward from the ground sufficiently high to protect the smoke stack of a locomotive, which is in the rear, and extending in width 3 or 4 feet each side of the track. Steam has been kept up in the engine all day. The range of this battery covers the railroad bridge and the track for the distance of half a mile. To our left of this battery are two earth-works, in one of which a gun can be seen. These works have the range of the railroad bridge and track for half a mile.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. HILL,
Captain, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—7.30 p. m.

[General HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: H. Herrin, Thirteenth North Carolina, Wilcox's division, a deserter, who gives strong proof of his good faith, and is intelligent, says that his division lies in front of a large frame house to the (enemy's) right of the point where the line of the Second Corps is so near the enemy; that he heard his officers say that we were going to put siege guns in position where the lines are so close; that they thought one was brought up last night and changed their lines and works a little; that when he went back to-day to the ammunition train with others, he was told by his captain that they were to charge the lines in front of his division to-night, in order to get possession of the position of our skirmish line. He speaks of seeing troops from the west to-day on his way back for ammunition, which I make out to be Breckinridge's, and is quite sure that the enemy is lying in a single line.

Respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—9 a. m.

Corps commanders are notified that an application has been made to General Lee for a cessation of hostilities from 12 to 3 p. m. this day, during which time parties will be permitted to collect the dead and wounded now lying between our lines and those of the enemy. Corps commanders will accordingly make the necessary preparatory arrangements, so that, on their being notified of the proposed truce being agreed upon, they can bring in their dead and wounded at the earliest moment.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—1.30 p. m.

The commanding general directs that corps commanders continue pushing up their works to the enemy, especially during the night. They will establish batteries wherever they can be used with advantage, not only for their own fronts, but for those of the corps adjoining. The chief quartermaster will furnish forage sacks and sand-bags upon application.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 154. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864.

1. The chief quartermaster of this army is charged, under the general instructions of the commanding general, with the direct location, organization, and supervision of the depots of the army.

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6. Corps and other independent commanders will cause a report to be made to them of the difference between the subsistence supplies that there should be in the possession of the troops, in accordance with the issues heretofore ordered, and the supplies actually in their possession, so that the losses occasioned by battle, fording of streams, and other causes, may be ascertained. An issue will then be authorized of the stores so lost, so that the number of days' supplies that there should be in the possession of the men, in accordance with the orders of issues alluded to, may actually be in their possession. No other extra issue will be authorized. The wagons emptied by such issues will be sent to White House at once to be filled, accompanied by such officers of the subsistence department as may be necessary.

7. Corps and other independent commanders will at once ascertain the number of unarmed men in their respective commands, and will then take immediate measures, through their ordnance officers and the ordnance officer at these headquarters, to obtain from the depot at the White House the necessary supplies to arm and equip their unarmed men.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—8 a. m.

[General HANCOCK:]

GENERAL: In order to obviate any existing difficulty about two lines, I have directed that one brigade of the two General Barlow has in the second line be moved to the left some 100 yards, so as to be more nearly opposite General Barlow's line. The other brigade will be left opposite Gibbon, in the breast-work in the corner of the wood. This is necessary for the reason that the brigades of Birney's division are much larger than those of the First Division.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

I beg to send for your information a dispatch* sent by me to General Meade this morning, and the indications are that they are either concentrating against some part of the line to the left of us, or leaving the entire front of the line.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

(Same to Wright and Smith.)

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*See Burnside to Meade, 6.15 a. m., p. 653.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Please report condition of affairs in your front. What progress, if any, was made last night in pushing toward the enemy, and your judgment from present condition of affairs of the practicability of an assault on the enemy's works in your front?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to General Smith.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

You will please notify Major-General Birney that all communications for superior authority, whether received by flag of truce or otherwise, are to be forwarded to his corps and Army of the Potomac headquarters.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

SECOND CORPS,
June 6, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The following dispatch has just been received from General Birney, and respectfully forwarded:

HEADQUARTERS BIRNEY'S DIVISION,
June 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: In answer to the dispatch from headquarters of the army I have the honor to report that two of my staff have just returned from Bottom's Bridge, and report that the enemy's pickets are on this side of Chickahominy to the lower Sumner Bridge—then, the line is on the farther side; that at the railroad bridge a post is on this side; also at Bottom's Bridge. Our cavalry picket the road and are not on the bank. I find the picket-line of the enemy in my front, near where the creek supplying Barker's Mill empties. Quite a strong one there. The farther bank commands this. The pickets are dismounted, of course, and it is hard to tell whether they are infantry or cavalry. I think those above the lower Sumner Bridge are infantry.

I am, your obedient servant,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In reply to the message this morning, asking my opinion as to the practicability of an assault on the enemy's works

on my front, I desire to inclose the opinions of my division commanders in front.* My judgment is averse to an assault, unless it is a necessary matter, and then it should be made with great power by a large force. I am averse to an assault, simply because my men have been so constantly out at the front, lying in the trenches all the time for three days, and are so fatigued that I fear they have not the dash necessary to carry them through the obstacles of a second line. They have lost the officers who have been accustomed to lead them, and as the enemy have been working constantly since we came here, the obstacles are now materially greater than they were on the first day. Whatever may be the orders they will be cheerfully obeyed and faithfully executed. The enemy cannot take our works I feel pretty well assured, and I think that their works are better regulated and more secure than our own, they having had a better opportunity of constructing them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

What is the firing?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy picked out 100 men from two of their brigades and sent them forward on a charge against our skirmish line to ascertain how we were posted. This was in General Barlow's front. This was the cause of the recent firing. I sent 9 of them over to you.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

[JUNE 6, 1864.]

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

This evening I notified General Birney that he must press the enemy's skirmishers back on this side of the Chickahominy. A great disadvantage resulted to us to-day from General Birney's pickets making an arrangement with the enemy that neither side should fire. I disapproved it, but General Birney previously had the officer of the picket, who sanctioned it, arrested. Still the truce continued, which gave the enemy an opportunity to look into our lines on the left. The facilities for this arrangement arose, no doubt, from the fact that the flags of truce went out and came in at that point.

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*See reports of Barlow and Gibbon, pp. 646, 647.

This Turkey Ridge appears to be the last high ground on this side of the river in front of our left. The enemy hold it, and have artillery there. It is a high ridge, covered with pines, with an open valley between it and our line. A deserter this evening states that there is an open field behind it of several hundred acres. It makes an excellent bridge-head for the enemy. On the other side of the Chickahominy there is some very high open ground, and several houses, which we can see from Birney's line, which may or may not be Dr. Trent's.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

SECOND CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

General Birney's line extends to the mill and one brigade on the high ground beyond to the left.. From that position we picket to the Chickahominy, a half mile or so. I have just returned from the line, and find that the enemy pickets on this side of the stream down to or near Bottom's Bridge. I also saw a cavalry officer from whom I understood that there were only 60 cavalry between my left and Bottom's Bridge. I thought one or two regiments were there. If this is really all I would like to know it. I send up a deserter this afternoon. He talks very freely; says they intend attacking Birney; that they are building a bridge on the Chickahominy behind the extension of Turkey Ridge; thinks their right rests on that ridge, which is close in front of Birney. He extends beyond it. The enemy have artillery on it. He says he saw a new corps come in there this p. m. Birney is in one line, with strong intrenchments.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—8.10 p. m. (Received 8.15 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

The commanding general understands from your dispatch that the enemy's infantry pickets are on this side the Chickahominy as far down as Bottom's Bridge, and wishes to know whether this is from any observation of your own, or is reported to you, and to what extent it has been examined into.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 6, 1864—8.45 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My informant was Major-General Birney, who informed me that the enemy's pickets were just this side of the river,

following this bank. This was my understanding, and I informed him that they should have been driven across. I will send your dispatch to General Birney for further particulars.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 6, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: There has been unusual quiet this evening; it continues still. General Wright reports to me that his pickets report that the enemy are moving silently along their rifle-pits to their right (our left). He is not confident of the value of this information, but I think it not unlikely, from previous observations.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—9 p. m.

The following dispatch has just been received at these headquarters, and is communicated for the information of commanders:

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

It has just been reported from the picket-line on my right that the enemy has been quietly and cautiously moving for some time toward his right (our left) along the line of his rifle-pits. I do not attach much importance to the statement, but it may be worth reporting.*

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—10.50 p. m. (Received 10.55 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

General Warren is directed to send two divisions to-morrow at daylight to the vicinity of Sumner's (lower) Bridge within supporting distance of your left. They will picket the Chickahominy from your left as far down as the railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

The major-general commanding directs that division commanders continue pushing up their works to the enemy, especially during the

* Same reported to General Humphreys, 8.30 p. m.

night. They will establish batteries wherever they can be used with advantage, not only for their own front but for those of the division adjoining. Grain bags will be furnished upon application.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 6, 1864—7 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Referring to the inclosed diagram,* I have the honor to report that during last night the parallel marked K I was extended some 6 or 7 yards. That the work running from K toward H was extended about 6 yards. That on the left, the work running from H toward K, was extended some yards.

The enemy kept up a sharp fire during parts of the night, and we are so near their work that scarcely anything more can be done at night than by day. The distance of K H from the enemy's work is about 30 yards at the part of the line where it was nearest; that is, on the right. It will gradually retire on the left (as indicated by diagram), to conform to the crest behind which it is built. This morning I have directed a mine to be run from a point in K I under the enemy's work at the angle. We will push these operations as fast as possible, our close proximity to the enemy being taken into account.

BARLOW,
General, First Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 6, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I have ordered my two brigades of the second line to relieve the troops of General Birney in the second line of General Gibbon. I have the honor to state for the information of the major-general commanding that this movement will leave me no troops in the second line of breast-works. I shall have two or three small regiments in the rear of the advanced line as supports, but otherwise my line will be single.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I do not think we should succeed in an assault in my front. We might perhaps carry the first weak line, but I am of opinion that their second line is very strong,

* Not found.

and that in passing from the first to the second line of the enemy's works, we should encounter a fire of artillery and infantry from all sides, which we could not go through. We could not hold the outer side of the enemy's first line, because it is in like manner swept from all sides. If we carried this first line, which could only be with loss, we could not hold it. And even this success would be very doubtful. There is no ground where troops could be formed for attack, and even when formed they would be broken up in passing over our own intrenchments. I do not think it expedient to assault again at present. The men feel just at present a great horror and dread of attacking earth-works again, and the unusual loss of officers, which leaves regiments in command of lieutenants, and brigades in command of inexperienced officers, leaves us in a very unfavorable condition for such enterprises. If the attack had been made on the evening of the 2d, as at first ordered, I think we should have found the enemy unprepared; but having had four days for preparation, I think it would be hazardous to attack.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

P. S.—I think the men are so wearied and worn out by the harassing labors of the past week that they are wanting in the spirit and dash necessary for successful assaults.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

COLONEL: Last night the right of my line of picket rifle-pits was strengthened and part of it now forms a continuous line, the right connecting with the main line Sixth Corps. It was found impracticable to connect it with their picket-line last night. I shall try to push this line forward on the right to-night. On the left General Owen has pushed forward at one point about 20 feet, from which point he hopes to be able to harass the enemy to his left and front. He needs sand-bags or gabions very much. Colonel Smyth connects his picket-line trench with General Owen's right, and is pushing it along his own front. On the right of his line the ground is very difficult to work in and not much can be done. This is also the case in the front of Colonel Ramsey, Fourth Brigade. Sketches showing all the positions will be forwarded as soon as they can be prepared.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

COLONEL: Your communication asking for my judgment in regard to the practicability of an assault on the enemy's works in my front is just received.

In reply I have the honor to state that my judgment is decidedly against the practicability of such an assault, for the following reasons: The whole of my division is now in one line, and so close to the enemy's works that it will be difficult to mass other troops for an assault out of sight of the enemy. Their position is now so strong that it would be very difficult to carry it under the most favorable circumstances without very heavy losses, and it is reasonable to suppose that the enemy has now prepared other lines of defense in his rear and beyond our sight. His batteries are strongly posted and are well placed for flanking and having a cross-fire on the approaches to his position. I do not believe the enemy could carry our position, nor am I confident that we could carry theirs. My own men from being so constantly employed and under fire, which they have been for three days, are a good deal exhausted, which, I presume, in a measure, is the case with the whole army.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,

Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,

June 6, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,

Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The enemy's pickets on the Dispatch road are within about 150 yards from your breast-works. From this point the enemy can look directly into your works. No works of their own can be seen from the same point, nor any picket reserves. The road is open for 150 yards farther. This information is derived from Major Mitchell, who went out with a flag and saw your lines from that point. A deserter reports that their intrenched line is nearly a mile back of this. From the fact that no picket-firing has been going on in your front the enemy have been able to examine your line without difficulty. If his statement in regard to the relative positions of the pickets [is correct] the commanding general directs that you will push your pickets forward for better protection. The above is by direction of the major-general commanding.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. BIRNEY'S DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,

June 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that during last night, in obedience to orders, I took position on General Barlow's left, covering the Dispatch Station road. Three brigades in single line extend from General Barlow's left to Barker's Mill. I occupy the heights to left of the mill, with a battery of light twelves, and my remaining brigade covering the approaches from the Chickahominy by Sumner's (upper) and Alexander's Bridges. My pickets are close to the enemy's, and extend on my left flank to the enemy's picket, by follow-

ing the banks of the little creek upon which Barker's Mill is located. The enemy have a line of pickets on this side of the Chickahominy. In addition to this line of pickets perpendicular to my line of battle I extend a line on the Dispatch road of skirmishers connecting at Tyler's with the cavalry. I think the enemy hold the fords or bridge-heads of the Chickahominy, with pickets on this side of it. By tacit understanding our pickets have ceased firing on each other. I have forbidden all intercourse of an irregular character. The communications in answer to flag of truce have been irregular and informal, but without my knowledge. It seemed to be the result of ignorance. I do not think that the alteration in my line is practicable, and would like a staff officer to indicate the new line to me.

I am, yours, truly,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General of Volunteers.

LEARY'S HOUSE, *June* 6, 1864—4.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The head of my last division is just coming into camp. We have been in the rear of the column on the road all night, and I stayed there to see what would be done by the enemy. They made a considerable demonstration by yelling and firing about 9.30 p. m., and disconcerted us a little. It is almost useless I think to attempt marching these dark nights, unless it is for the mere object of safely retiring from a position. It was 3 a. m. before the rear of my column got on the way, and it was so on all our previous efforts. The road was good, but narrow and through forests. The men being unacquainted with the roads, on all descents step out just as one does in a strange house when they go down stairs. It is unavoidable, the inclination to feel before planting the foot, and the frequent tumbles they get off of banks and other places makes them do it in spite of every effort of their officers; then, too, in the night an officer cannot be distinguished, nor those who disobey him, so that practically an army on one of these dark nights marches a little better than the crowd that walks the streets, as far as organization is concerned. The men never march well except on a retreat when they are all hurried forward with the common instinct of fear. The consequence besides of this is that the men are unfitted to-day to do the work they may be called upon. I find shoes have arrived and will be issued this morning. They are greatly needed.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I believe if I should remain here to-night I could get up the baggage wagons of the corps, sort out that of the killed and wounded officers, let those remaining change their clothes, and dispense with half our baggage wagons for use in other ways. Will I be here long enough to effect this?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I am unable to say authoritatively whether you will remain here to-day and to-night or not, but I am under the impression you will, and that it would be worth while to undertake what you mention.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—12 m.

Major-General WARREN:

Since the return of the major-general commanding to his headquarters I have submitted your dispatch to him, and find that his opinion differs from that expressed by me as to the advisability of bringing up baggage wagons for the purpose specified.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Burnside reports that the enemy are pressing his right heavily. The commanding general directs that you hold a division ready to move to his support, and send a staff officer to choose the shortest route, and inform General Burnside.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

JUNE 6, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The major-general commanding directs that you send two divisions at daylight to-morrow morning—say 3.30 o'clock—to the rear of General Hancock's left, within a supporting distance—say opposite Sumner's (lower) Bridge. The commander of these divisions will picket the Chickahominy to and including the railroad bridge so as to cover it. The cavalry will picket the Chickahominy below the railroad bridge.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I would like to have Colonel Bragg command the brigade of General Cutler's division at present commanded by Colonel

Robinson. The latter officer is not a satisfactory commander in battle, and neutralizes the efficiency of one of our best brigades. Can he not be detailed to assist at the White House with General Abercrombie, or in some similar position where his defects, which are mainly slowness of thinking in action, will not be so injurious?

Respectfully, yours,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

So far as the commanding general is aware there is no special service to which Colonel Robinson can be properly assigned at the present time.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Division commanders and commander of Artillery Brigade are notified that the baggage wagons now here are to be sent back as soon as possible to-day. The baggage and effects of dead and wounded officers must be at once selected out and packed in wagons to be sent to Washington, and all officers are required to take out what little baggage they need, and pack the remainder to be sent to the rear, as but one wagon will be allowed to each regiment.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDER.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—11 p. m.

The divisions of Generals Cutler and Griffin, under the command of the latter officer, will proceed to-morrow morning at 3.30 a. m. to the Chickahominy, near Sumner's (lower) Bridge, and take position there. Their duty will be to guard the crossings of the river and picket its banks from the left of the Second Corps to below the railroad bridge, holding this last point in some force. If any of the enemy are on this side of the stream they will be driven back across to the other side. The cavalry pickets will be relieved between the points indicated, and they are instructed to picket the river below the railroad. The main body will be held in readiness to support General Hancock's left flank as far as practicable, and will communicate with General Birney, whose division is holding the left of the Second Corps. A guide will be furnished the head of the column as it passes corps headquarters. General Griffin's division, with his artillery, will take the lead, to be followed by General Cutler.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *June* 6, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

I wish you would make out a recommendation for the promotion of Colonel Chamberlain. I will forward it at once, so that it can take its chance with some others that are going to be forwarded.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 75. } HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS, *Camp near Cold Harbor, Va., June* 6, 1864.

1. The Third Brigade, of the Fourth Division, having been assigned to duty with this division, will be hereafter known as the First Brigade.

2. The One hundred and eighty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers having been assigned to duty with this division, the commanding officer will report to Colonel Chamberlain, commanding First Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

C. B. MERVINE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *June* 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division, Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you hold your division in readiness to advance at a moment's notice to the support of General Burnside, if necessary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Some advance was made last night by the regular engineers in front of my left division, occupying ground hitherto held by rebel sharpshooters. On other portions nothing was done, except to connect and perfect the advanced works previously opened, and to establish additional batteries. No change can be discovered in strength or position of enemy, who has, however, worked industriously in strengthening his works.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

Your dispatch reporting operations received. Please report what in your judgment, under existing condition of affairs, is the practicability of making an assault on the enemy's works in your front.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In reply to your dispatch of 10.45 a. m., I have to say that I consider a successful assault on the enemy's works in my front "under existing condition of affairs" impracticable. The enemy has a series of intrenchments in my front, and if I were successful in the attack on the first line it is not likely I could carry the others if defended with ordinary obstinacy. In this opinion I am supported by the unanimous judgment of the division commanders, who were called upon for a report as to the practicability of assault on their fronts, either with their own divisions or their divisions supported by other troops.

Very respectfully,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding Sixth Corps.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Division commanders will report at once their opinions as to the practicability of an assault on the position of the enemy, in their respective fronts, either by their own divisions, or by the three divisions supported by other troops.

By command of Major-General Wright:

M. T. McMAHON,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.

JUNE 6, 1864—6.15 a. m.

General MEADE:

In changing position last night I placed Crittenden's division in position from the Woody house nearly in the direction indicated by you yesterday, the lay of the ground not allowing it to be thrown forward quite so far as you wish. I left Willcox and Potter in the same position they were yesterday with the exception of throwing two regiments on Potter's extreme right back, so as to cover the two roads from Bethesda Church to this point. General Potter just reports, that he is of the opinion that there is no enemy in either of his immediate fronts, and the indications were last night that they were preparing to leave the front of General Willcox. He has just reported that he can see no change yet. We will endeavor to ascertain, as soon as possible, the exact state of affairs and report to you.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

In order that you may understand more fully what I mean by saying that the indications were that the enemy was last night pre-

paring to leave Willcox's front, I send you a dispatch* I received from him last night. I hope to report very soon the condition of Potter's front with more certainty.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Please report your judgment on the practicability, as far as you are now able to judge, of an assault on the enemy's works in your immediate front, and make such examination as will enable you to form an opinion.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—12 m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Reports received from Major-General Smith indicate that you have withdrawn from the position you held on his right. This may be a misapprehension, since your report of this morning showed that your position on Smith's right was held by two divisions of your corps, the third holding to Bosher's. This, the major-general commanding directs me to say, was in accordance with his directions. The withdrawal from Smith's right wouldn't be, and is contrary to his orders.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 1.45 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 12 o'clock is received. I have just returned from my lines with General Birney. They are the same as indicated in my report of this morning. I have not withdrawn a single man from the two divisions on the right of General Smith. Generals Willcox and Potter remain as they were, except that two regiments of General Potter's division have been swung a little to the right in accordance with your order.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

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*See Willcox to Burnside, 12 midnight June 5, p. 623.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Has the proposition for flag of truce been accepted? If so, for what time?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—3.10 p. m. (Received 3.50 p. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general directs me to say that you will be notified as soon as the flag of truce is accepted.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—5.10 p. m. (Received 5.30 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The enemy are pressing our right very heavily. The pickets have been driven in on the front of General Potter, who was swung to the rear last evening, and are also pressing the line of skirmishers of General Crittenden. Our entire line is a single one, owing to its great length, but we hope to retain our position. It is possible that the attacking force is a light one, but we shall ascertain the strength of it very soon.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch received. General Warren is ordered to hold a division ready to move to you, and to send a staff officer to select route, &c.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The major-general commanding wishes to know what progress has been made in the redoubt near the Widow Thomas' [Thompson's], whether work has been continued on it to-day or has it been interrupted, and if interrupted by what authority.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—7.15 p. m. (Received 7.50 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

We have been as hard at work at the redoubts as the rebel sharpshooters would allow. I most respectfully state that General Smith's right is quite secure, as we have two good divisions on his right, and hold the salient which protects it. Our line is three times as long as his. He is running two new lines in rear of ours. I hope he will not withdraw to them without notice to us.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—10 p. m. (Received 10.15 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Potter in pushing out his skirmishers just now took some prisoners. They state that they belong to Early's division, of Ewell's corps; that their corps is here, and Hill's moving to their right; that it is reported in their army that we are moving down to cross the James River.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

JUNE 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: By order of Colonel McIntosh, commanding First Brigade, Third Division, Cavalry Corps, I have the honor to report that I am stationed on the road in front of Bosher's house with about 500 men of the Second New York and First Connecticut Cavalry. I have established pickets and barricaded the roads, viz, the road leading off to the right called the Shady Grove road, the main road, and the road leading to the left, near Gibson's house, on which I was ordered to establish communication with General Potter's command. One of the officers of Colonel McIntosh's staff informs me that it would be impracticable to-night to try to open this road, as the enemy is on it in considerable force. I shall, however, try at daylight to-morrow morning to force such communication if possible, and find out what is in front of my command. The only communication between General Potter's command and this brigade is by the way of Allen's Mill.

I should be much obliged to be informed if this line is satisfactory, and have the honor, general, to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

OTTO HARHAUS,
Colonel Second New York Cavalry, Comdg. Picket Post.

At Bosher's house the enemy have deployed a strong line of skirmishers, and have also two guns in position.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—9 a. m.

Division commanders of the Ninth Corps will, on the receipt of this order, place all their wagons, caissons, and artillery not in position in some sheltered place, near their commands and in such a position as to move readily when ordered. If necessary, roads will be cut through the woods on to the Cold Harbor road. Staff officers should examine and make themselves acquainted with the roads over which trains will pass.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Woody's House, June 6, 1864—9 a. m.

General BURNSIDE, *Ninth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: I did not send out the small reconnoitering party as ordered by Captain Van Vliet, as I found the enemy's skirmishers advancing. They are now along my whole front, except the extreme right, which is so much refused that they are not likely to come there except they attempt a flank movement. I think if we had held our old line, fortified the hill on my right, and run a short line back to the swamp, our position would have been much stronger than now. As it is, I am holding the hill with a strong force of skirmishers. It enfilades most of the position to the left. The enemy took several prisoners, stragglers from the Fifth Corps, directly in sight of my pickets, and seen pretty well. There is a small force of Second Pennsylvania Artillery (First Division) on the road over which the wagons came. If not already ordered, they had better be withdrawn, as I have a regiment in their front and they are not far enough from the main line to be of any use.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
June 6, 1864—3.40 p. m.

[General BURNSIDE:]

GENERAL: Quite a heavy fire of artillery, as you perceive, is being opened to my right and rear. I can't tell where it comes from, but have sent to find out. It comes from where I supposed General Wilson to be, or about in that direction, making this vicinity pretty hot. It may fall over Wilson into Crittenden's line.

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—3.50 p. m.

General BURNSIDE, *Ninth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: The enemy have pressed my skirmishers back somewhat, particularly on the right where the Forty-eighth [Pennsyl-

vania] is across the road, and have opened with two batteries from the right. I think they are intending an attack on me, and I am a little apprehensive that my right will get into trouble, as it is weak and can't very well be strengthened. I should have to fall back on Crittenden's line.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—The skirmishers of the Forty-eighth on the right, I learn just now, have all been driven back to the main line. Captain McKibbin has just come from there and reports considerable force. I have sent a regiment to their support.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—4.45 p. m.

General POTTER:

Your note is received. The general commanding directs me to say that General Crittenden has been notified to hold himself in readiness to support you in every possible way. He feels satisfied that you will do all in your power to hold the line, and fully appreciates the importance of doing so.

Respectfully, yours,

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—5.10 p. m.

General POTTER:

The general commanding directs me to say that he desires you, if possible, to retake the position held by our skirmishers on the hill in advance of your position. At any rate, to push a line of skirmishers so far forward as to prevent them (the enemy) from planting a battery there.

Respectfully, yours,

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER:

Colonel Curtin reports that it is impossible for him to obey the within order. He cannot advance 50 men in line of battle through the swamp, and the enemy occupies the hill in front.

Very respectfully,

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Woody's, June 6, 1864—9.35 p. m.

General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have advanced my skirmishers farther up the hill, and think I may possibly get possession of enough of it to put up the work I want. I have taken some prisoners of Early's division, of Ewell's corps. They belong to different brigades, and represent their corps as here and Hill's moving to the right. It was reported in their army that we were moving to cross James River; represent that they expected no serious resistance and met with some loss. They don't seem to know much of the object of the movement. My line is quite strong. I cover the front of about one-third of the First Division. I lost some prisoners this afternoon, including the senior captain of the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers. The present firing is caused by the advance of my line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

ENGINEER OFFICE, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. O. B. WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: In accordance with an order received from General Meade, you are directed to push the construction of the redoubt in front of the Thompson house to-night with vigor.

By order of General Burnside:
J. ST. C. MORTON,
Major of Engineers.

P. S.—You will also prosecute the works of approach along your line.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—7 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

The telegraph line between White House and Fort Monroe is now in working condition.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864—8.25 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

All quiet along my front save sharpshooting.
WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 6, 1864—11.25 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Everything is quiet on my front except skirmish fire. No attempt at progress was made last night in the direction of the enemy's works, on account of remarks made by you to Captain Farquhar yesterday. The picket officers and officers on my front line have reported the enemy hard at work during the last two nights digging, chopping, and driving stakes. I do not think an assault practicable from any point in my front, unless batteries are first thrown up on the front occupied yesterday morning by General Burnside, which might silence cross fire of artillery, which the enemy now have on me.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

Could I be furnished with about twelve Coehorn mortars to use on our present lines?

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 6, 1864—9.10 p. m. (Received 9.15 p. m.)

Major-General SMITH:

I have no Coehorns available at present, but have sent for six for your corps.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
New Castle Ferry, Va., June 6, 1864—3 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that I have established my headquarters at New Castle Ferry.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp at New Castle Ferry, June 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding, that I think that the enemy have a small force of infantry at Bottom's Bridge. They had a train of cars at or near Savage Station this morning.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel KINGSBURY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Cavalry Corps:

COLONEL: On arriving at the White House you will establish a cavalry camp at some safe and convenient point, where the cavalry returning to the army can be collected and cared for. You will take charge of the horses arriving for the Cavalry Corps, superintending the mounting of the veterans now with the trains of the army. Use every effort to get all the dismounted men from the trains to your command. If this can be accomplished it will overcome the error of mounting recruits instead of veterans. The mounted men should be sent to their regiments in detachments as quickly as possible. You will if possible procure carbines for the Third New Jersey Cavalry. If you are unable to obtain carbines arm them with rifles for the present. Major Beaumont, First New Jersey Cavalry, now commanding dismounted men, is the best officer to command your camp. Capt. J. W. Spangler, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, is now on duty at the White House receiving horses for the corps.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near New Castle Ferry, June 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. H. WILSON,
Commanding Third Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to notify you that he will march from New Castle Ferry at 5 a. m. to-morrow, taking with him the First and Second Cavalry Divisions. During his absence you will report and receive your orders direct from headquarters Army of the Potomac. Your division quartermaster and commissary will have to attend to the supplying of your command. Orders have been issued directing the officers in charge at the White House to send all detachments of cavalry (mounted) belonging to the different cavalry divisions to report temporarily for duty with your command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

WHITE HOUSE, VA., *June* 6, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 7 a. m. 7th.)

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL U. S. ARMY:

Surgeon Dalton, chief medical officer at this place, has received orders to-night from Acting Surgeon-General Barnes to send no more wounded from this place except on hospital transports. It is my opinion that if the order is carried out wounded soldiers will have to be abandoned at this place. I may be mistaken. You are probably better informed in regard to intended movements of the army than I am. We have only two hospital transports on this line. They can carry from 1,200 to 1,500 at a time, and require from

three to four days to make trip. We have 4,500 wounded in hospital here, and more will of course be brought in, and I consider it of the utmost importance that they be removed from this place immediately. I have plenty of hay and straw on hand, and can make such steamers as the John Brooks, George Weems, Massachusetts, &c., very comfortable, especially for transporting those not severely wounded. I shall communicate with General Ingalls by the earliest opportunity.

P. P. PITKIN,
Captain, Quartermaster.

COLD HARBOR, VA., *June* 6, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

An expedition under General Hunter is now on its way up the Shenandoah Valley, and a large cavalry force will leave here to-morrow under General Sheridan to join him, for the purpose of utterly destroying the enemy's lines of communication on the north side of James River. When this is done it is my intention to transfer all the force now with me to the south side. To do this I may be compelled to go to the mouth of the Chickahominy. I now send Colonel Comstock, of my staff, to you to see what preparations are necessary to secure the rapid crossing of the river, and to learn if your position will be secure during the time the enemy would necessarily be able to spare a large force to operate with against you before re-enforcements could reach you. Colonel Comstock will explain to you fully the situation here.

U. S. GRANT.
Lieutenant-General.

FORT MONROE, *June* 6, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Captain Slosson with his pontoons reached here yesterday, and I sent them up to you, enough for 460 feet of bridging, according to General Halleck's order. I should be very happy to go up and see you, but that I am holding here under the order of General Meade to be ready to move at such short notice that I have not ventured to leave even to visit Norfolk.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

BERMUDA, *June* 6, 1864.

Major DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The pontoon train of twenty-three boats and material for bridging has just arrived at this place from Fortress Monroe, sent by order of General Benham. What shall I do with it and my men?

H. V. SLOSSON,
Captain, Fifteenth New York Volunteer Engineers.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
June 6, 1864.

Colonel PAINE,
Acting Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report for the information of the general commanding that I have been making a telescopic reconnaissance from the south side of the Appomattox this p. m., and carefully watching two points on the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad. The only train that has passed over the road since 6 o'clock this morning was one of eight cars, loaded with troops, which passed from Petersburg toward Richmond at 3.20 p. m.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Farrar's Island, June 6, 1864.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Nothing new to communicate. Visited army lines to-day. They are thought to be very strong.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 40. } *In the Field, near Hatcher's, Va., June* 6, 1864.

Lieut. George Dimock, First Connecticut Artillery, is hereby assigned to duty in command of the water battery on James River.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., June 6, 1864.

Lieut. Col. H. S. COMMAGER,
Sixty-seventh Ohio Vols., General Officer of the Day:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding authorizes you to give the assurance to the enemy that the burial party sent out by them for the purpose of burying the bodies of those of our men who may be close to their lines will not be fired upon. None of the enemy, however, but the burial party will be permitted to advance from their lines. If the enemy will permit the bodies to be brought in and buried by our own men, it would be preferable.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Curtis', Va., June 6, 1864.

Col. J. R. HAWLEY,
Seventh Connecticut Volunteers:

COLONEL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to state that a flag of truce will be sent to the enemy at 9 a. m. to-morrow, and to request that you will send to the headquarters of the pickets before that hour such articles of clothing, &c., as you may desire to send to the captured officers of your command who are now in the hands of the enemy. No letters can be sent.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Col. H. M. Plaisted.)

NORFOLK, VA., *June 6, 1864.*

Colonel PAINE,
Acting Chief of Staff, Bermuda Hundred:

General Graham reports that the Jesup drove off the battery at Day's Point. I will send tug with two Sawyer guns to-day to keep them off and prevent their throwing up earth-works. Squadron of cavalry now out to Chuckatuck.

G. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

YORKTOWN, *June 6, 1864.*

Captain JOHNSTON:

The officer commanding the guard on the telegraph line at West Point reports that parties of rebels are continually crossing the river in boats from New Kent to the Gloucester side below West Point. A small gun-boat should be sent up to patrol the river in the vicinity.

J. B. CARR,
Brigadier-General.

WHITE HOUSE, VA., *June 6, 1864.*
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

I have inspected the depot at this place. It is in a most efficient state. All needful supplies are on hand and wagons transport them easily to the army. Many wounded are being brought in; probably 5,000 are yet to arrive, still transports are not delayed here one moment unnecessarily. I have given all proper orders and shall return to general headquarters this evening.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General.

COLD HARBOR, *June* 7, 1864.
(Received 10.50 a. m. 8th.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

All has been very quiet to-day. No casualties reported. My telegrams would be more frequent but for the fact that Mr. Dana keeps you fully advised. Permit me to renew my recommendation of T. S. Bowers for the position of assistant adjutant-general in the regular army to fill the vacancy created by Colonel Buell, placing Bowers at the foot of the list of majors.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, June 7, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 5th, by Lieutenant-Colonel Babcock, was received last evening. General Meigs has been advised of your wishes in regard to ferry-boats. He will keep all he has or can procure in the vicinity of Fort Monroe subject to your orders. Many of the side-wheel boats in the quartermaster's department will also answer all the purposes of ferry-boats. The barges will also be excellent for teams and stores, and can be towed by the tugs. Everything will be sent forward as soon as you direct. They are now mostly engaged as transports to White House. Nothing has recently been heard of Generals Hunter and Crook. Sherman is still doing well, but some apprehension has been felt about Forrest's movements to cut off his communications. General Canby has sent forces to Memphis to assist in driving Forrest out of the country. Nothing recently from Steele. I inclose a list of the troops forwarded from this department to the Army of the Potomac since the campaign opened—48,265 men. I shall send you a few regiments more, when all resources will be exhausted till another draft is made.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure.]

Memorandum of troops forwarded from Department of Washington to Army of the Potomac since May 1, 1864.

Regiment.	Strength.	Regiment.	Strength.
82d and 23d Pennsylvania Volunteers	1,250	7th New York Heavy Artillery	1,835
Detachment veteran cavalry	400	1st Maine Heavy Artillery	1,789
Do	925	2d New York Heavy Artillery	1,679
1st Vermont Heavy Artillery	1,500	1st Massachusetts Heavy Artillery	1,700
12th United States	85	Provisional battalion, Rendezvous of Distribution.	410
2d New York Rifles	1,000	Irish Legion	2,000
Provisional brigade, Rendezvous of Distribution.	3,300	36th Wisconsin Volunteers	866
107th Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers.	280	13th Ohio Cavalry (dismounted)	630
67th Pennsylvania Volunteers	250	Detachment veteran cavalry	1,150
Provisional brigade, Rendezvous of Distribution.	425	2d Connecticut Heavy Artillery	1,700
Equipped recruits	553	9th New York Heavy Artillery	1,400
8th New York Heavy Artillery	1,500	184th Pennsylvania Volunteers	480
31st and 32d Maine	403	Provisional battalion, Rendezvous of Distribution, and recruits.	853
		29th Massachusetts Volunteers	148

Memorandum of troops forwarded from Department of Washington to Army of the Potomac since May 1, 1864—Continued.

Regiment.	Strength.	Regiment.	Strength.
Detachment 184th Pennsylvania	70	Company 60th Ohio Volunteer Infantry	76
Battalion, Rendezvous of Distribution.	800	Rendezvous of Distribution and recruits.	1,243
Rendezvous of Distribution	297	Battalion Minnesota Volunteers	176
187th Pennsylvania Volunteers	990	Provisional battalion	857
3d Delaware and 94th New York	1,150	23d U. S. Colored Troops	45
4th Delaware, 5th New York, and 157th Pennsylvania.	1,050	138th Ohio National Guard	840
21st Pennsylvania Cavalry (dismounted).	1,038	140th Ohio National Guard	800
Company recruits 16th Michigan	83	Provisional battalion, Rendezvous of Distribution.	696
2d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery	1,233	Provisional battalion from Briggs	448
10th New York Heavy Artillery	1,759	155th Ohio National Guard	900
Purnell (Maryland) Legion	153	179th New York	85
1st Delaware Cavalry	529	134th Ohio National Guard	800
28th, 29th, 31st Colored	1,154	5th New Hampshire Volunteers	467
37th and 38th Wisconsin	830		
179th New York	357		48,265
132d Ohio Volunteer Infantry	829		

Note in Letter Book, Headquarters Armies of the United States.

This last letter of General Lee* was not delivered at the outposts of General Hancock until after 10 o'clock, the hour fixed by General Lee for the expiration of the armistice. Notwithstanding, the rebel pickets were drawn in as proposed, and a burial party sent out shortly after 8 o'clock, but as our pickets had received no instructions on the subject, the party was captured. On the report of these facts, General Grant has just sent the subjoined letter to the rebel commander.

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COLD HARBOR, VA., *June* 7, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General R. E. LEE, *Comdg. Army of Northern Virginia:*

I regret that your note of 7 p. m. yesterday should have been received at the nearest corps headquarters to where it was delivered after the hour that had been given for the removal of the dead and wounded had expired. 10.45 p. m. was the hour at which it was received at corps headquarters, and between 11 and 12 it reached my headquarters. As a consequence, it was not understood by the troops of this army that there was a cessation of hostilities for the purpose of collecting the dead and wounded, and none were collected. Two officers and six men of the Eighth and Twenty-fifth North Carolina Regiments, who were out in search of the bodies of officers of their respective regiments, were captured and brought into our lines owing to this want of understanding. I regret this, but will state that as soon as I learned the fact I directed that they should not be held as prisoners, but must be returned to their commands. These officers and men having been carelessly brought through our lines to the rear, I have not determined whether they will be sent back the way they came or whether they will be sent by some other route.

Regretting that all my efforts for alleviating the sufferings of wounded men left upon the battle-field have been rendered nugatory,

I remain, &c.,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

*See June 6, 7 p. m., p. 639.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 7, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding U. S. Armies:

GENERAL: Your note of 10.30 a. m. to-day has just been received. I regret that my letter to you of 7 p. m. yesterday should have been too late in reaching you to effect the removal of the wounded.

I am willing, if you desire it, to devote the hours between 6 and 8 this afternoon to accomplish that object upon the same terms and conditions as set forth in my letter of 7 p. m. yesterday. If this will answer your purpose, and you will send parties from your lines at the hour designated with white flags, I will direct that they be recognized and be permitted to collect the dead and wounded.

I will also notify the officers on my lines that they will be permitted to collect any of our men that may be on the field. I request you will notify me as soon as practicable if this arrangement is agreeable to you. Lieutenant McAllister, Corporal Martin, and two privates of the Eighth North Carolina Regiment, and Lieutenant Hartman, Corpl. T. Kinlow, and Privates Bass and Grey were sent last night, between the hours of 8 and 10 p. m., for the purpose of recovering the body of Colonel Murchison, and as they have not returned, I presume they are the men mentioned in your letter. I request that they be returned to our lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Indorsement.]

JUNE 7, 1864.

Referred to General G. G. Meade, commanding Army of the Potomac.

I will notify General Lee that hostilities will cease from 6 to 8 for the purposes mentioned. You may send the officers and men referred to as you deem best. Please return this.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

COLD HARBOR, VA., *June 7*, 1864—5.30 p. m.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

Your note of this date just received. It will be impossible for me to communicate the fact of the truce by the hour named by you (6 p. m.), but I will avail myself of your offer at the earliest possible moment, which I hope will not be much after that hour. The officers and men taken last evening are the same mentioned in your note and will be returned.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
June 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the following batteries, &c., of the enemy upon the south side of the Chickahominy: Opposite

Bottom's Bridge, and commanding it, a battery of two guns behind an ordinary earth-work. About 100 yards in the rear of this work is a line of rifle-pits or a common breast-work, several hundred yards long. About 600 men visible at this point. Two guns on each side of the railroad in the vicinity of the railroad bridge. The earth-works at that place, mainly old ones, repaired and strengthened. The infantry kept out of view in that vicinity. Three guns east of the Dudley house.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
June 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: About 3 this p. m. the skirmishers of the Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Regiment, Ninth Army Corps (on extreme right of our line), picked up a small note on advancing their lines. Inclosed is a true copy brought in by one of our scouts. The original was left with the colonel of the regiment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

[Inclosure.]

Mrs. Bowles, who has been down to Old Church to procure supplies of crackers, reports that the enemy have intrenchments in the edge of the woods below Pate's house, about 1 mile from Old Church, toward Linney's. They have pickets in the upper edge of Pate's clearing. Mrs. Bowles reports General Barrow [Ferrero] in command at Old Church. She saw five flags. The troops were principally negroes, with some whites. She procured supplies from the commissary at Old Church. I am with Lieutenant Early, Cobb Legion.

D. E. HENDERSON,
Lieutenant of Engineers.

MONDAY MORNING—1.30 o'clock.

Scouts report finding a picket at Allen's Mill. The above statement may be relied upon.

D. E. HENDERSON.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—7 a. m.

Corps commanders will report the condition of affairs in their fronts, progress in works during the night, and changes, if any, noted in position or force of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864.

The major-general commanding directs that corps commanders suspend pushing their works up to the enemy, limiting their operations to completing those necessary for their security that have been commenced.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 155. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864.

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3. Two days' subsistence will be drawn from the train and issued to the troops to-day, which will give four days' rations on the persons of the men from to-morrow morning. The wagons thus emptied will be sent to the White House for additional supplies, accompanied by the proper officers of the subsistence department to draw the stores.

* * * * * * *

5. The portions of the First New Hampshire Cavalry, Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry, and Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry now with this army, dismounted, will at once proceed to the White House depot and report for duty to Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie, commanding at that place.

6. Captains Clayton's and Watkins' cavalry companies, of the Purnell Legion, dismounted and equipped as infantry, and now serving with the provost-marshal-general, are assigned to duty with the portion of the Purnell Legion, Maryland Volunteers, attached to the Third Brigade, Second Division, Fifth Corps, and will report accordingly with as little delay as practicable.

* * * * * * *

10. So much of paragraph 5, Special Orders, No. 155, of this date, from these headquarters, as directs the portion of the Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry with the dismounted cavalry at the supply train to report for duty to Brigadier-General Abercrombie, commanding at the White House, is revoked, and the detachment will at once join the portion of the Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry serving with the Ninth Army Corps.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864.

Corps commanders are notified that a flag of truce exists from 6 to 8 p. m. to-day, and they will immediately send out, under a white flag, medical officers with stretcher-bearers to bring in the dead and wounded. No other officers or men will be permitted to leave the

lines, and no intercourse of any kind will be held with the enemy, and the medical officers and attendants will be enjoined not to converse upon any subject connected with the military operations or likely to give information to the enemy.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864.

Edward Crapsey, a correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer, having published in that journal of the 2d instant a libelous statement on the commanding general of this army calculated to impair the confidence of the army in their commanding officer, and which statement the said Crapsey has acknowledged to have been false, and to have been based on some idle camp rumor, it is hereby ordered that he be arrested and paraded through the lines of the army with a placard marked "libeler of the press," and that he be then put without the lines and not permitted to return.

The provost-marshal-general will see that this order is promptly executed.

The commanding general trusts that this example will deter others from committing like offenses, and he takes this occasion to notify the representatives of the public press that, whilst he is ready at all times to extend to them every facility for acquiring facts and giving circulation to the truth, he will not hesitate to punish with the utmost rigor all instances like the above where individuals take advantage of the privileges accorded to them to circulate falsehood and thus impair the confidence which the public and army should have in their generals and other officers.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—8.10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Ricketts' battery will be returned to you the moment its services with the Eighteenth Corps can be dispensed with. It is not practicable to return it at the present moment.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 7, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 5 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. D. B. BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that now you are in position in front of the enemy he desires

you to advance your line as far as practicable by means of regular approaches, having selected such points of attack on the enemy's line as you may think most advantageously situated for opening against. The general desires you to run zigzags and parallels until you attain a position from which the enemy's works can be readily assaulted, or batteries placed to enfilade their lines. Sand-bags will be furnished you on application to the quartermaster at these headquarters, Captain McEntee. The engineer department is engaged in making gabions, and a small number of these can be sent you from day to day. A daily report at 8 a. m. is required from division commanders showing by sketches and otherwise what progress has been made since last report, and changes in the enemy's lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—9.10 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to transmit the report* of division commanders showing their operations since last report. General Birney to-night will commence operations against the point in front of his right center, where the enemy's line makes a return to the river. General Barlow has been working along steadily, but necessarily slowly, owing to the close proximity he is in to the enemy. The mine is progressing well. General Gibbon's report will show his operations. The officers of the enemy bringing in the flag of truce arrived about 8 p. m., but who were not communicated with until a later hour, reported that the enemy had withdrawn their skirmishers at 8 o'clock in order to let us have an opportunity to collect our wounded, &c. We received no notice of it in sufficient time to avail ourselves of it, as it was nearly 10 o'clock when it came, and, besides, we had no notice from higher headquarters that a truce was or would be in existence.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

SECOND CORPS,
June 7, 1864—1 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

General Birney reports by a staff officer that General Griffin, with parts of two divisions of Fifth Army Corps, has connected with his left, and has discovered a heavy force of the enemy on the other side of the Chickahominy, at Bottom's Bridge, who shelled his column as it passed down. General Birney has advanced his pickets on his left, and driven the enemy beyond the swamp. General B.'s pickets are now on this side of an impassable swamp.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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* See Barlow to Walker and Gibbon to Walker, pp. 672, 673.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
June 7, 1864—1.20 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

The telegraph is now up to my headquarters. The road is now nearer to you and to my division headquarters than before. I forgot to mention last evening that the enemy is throwing mortar shells (probably Coehorns), directed at Cold Harbor. I shall send a staff officer and orderlies to show the way to headquarters.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—11.50 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The commanding general directs that the companies of regular engineer troops now serving with the Second, Sixth, and Eighteenth Corps be returned early to-morrow morning to the headquarters of the regular engineer battalion near these headquarters.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Wright and Smith.)

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Division commanders are informed that it has been observed this p. m. that along three-fourths of the line the breast-works have been constructed so high that it is impossible for the troops to fire horizontally over them.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Wherever this fault exists along their line of works brigade commanders will have "treads" or platforms of earth constructed at once, so that the troops may be high enough to be able to deliver an effective fire horizontally over the works.

By order of Brigadier-General Barlow:

JOHN HANCOCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that we continued the approach last night as vigorously as possible. We are working the most advanced parallel from both right and left toward the center. On the left some 6 yards was finished last night, and the right some 4 yards. Only 1 man can work at a time, and last night the flashes

of the lightning constantly revealed the position of the working party to the enemy, and enabled them to interrupt the work by their fire. The mine is also being pushed. The open approach (shown by inclosed sketch) and the gallery together are some 40 feet in length at this time. I have the honor to inclose a sketch* of our works on the right of our line.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. FOURTH BRIG., FIRST DIV., SECOND CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Major HANCOCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this p. m. The directions of the general commanding the division were fully complied with at the time they were given. The only point to which the remarks of the corps commander can apply, is in the advanced work in front of the right of the brigade. At this point the works were made purposely high and loop-holed in order to protect the troops from the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters. Directions were given before dark, however, to have this work leveled to the proper height as soon after dark as it could be done with safety.

Your obedient servant,

JAMES A. BEAVER,
Colonel 148*th Pennsylvania Vols., Comdg. Brigade.*

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report progress in my works last night. On the right Colonel Pierce has so strengthened his line of picket rifle-pits that he has placed a portion of his two reserve regiments in them to occupy them. He has corduroyed the swamp running through his brigade, and is about to construct a breast-work with sand-bags, so that he will have uninterrupted communication throughout his whole line. But little advance was made by Colonel Ramsey, Fourth Brigade, who has difficult ground, but is still working ahead slowly. The picket-firing last night was almost continuous, and the working parties throughout the line were a good deal harassed. On the left General Owen has pushed forward a salient near the center of his line, with which it is designed to connect the one made the night before, which will give us a line about 12 or 15 yards farther forward. Colonel Smyth has prolonged the line commenced in his front night before last, advancing slightly his right, where the sharpshooters' fire from the right is very severe, and to-night Colonel Ramsey is to push forward the left of his line so as to try and silence it. I send Captain Seville, with his maps, and he will explain the new positions.

JOHN GIBBON,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN, or, in his absence,
The SENIOR OFFICER OF HIS TWO DIVISIONS,
Near Leary's:

The major-general commanding directs that you hold the two divisions of the Fifth Corps near Leary's prepared to move up to the support of General Burnside, and support him when he calls upon you for support. You will send a staff officer to communicate with General Burnside.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Burnside is directed to send some force to Allen's Mill, crossing by Matadequin and the next crossing above, coming from Bosher's.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

JUNE 7, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The map furnished by Major Duane leads you into an error about the crossings of the Matadequin coming from Bosher's toward Allen's Mill. There is but one such crossing and that is at the mill, which I am guarding. They have drawn the stream wrong. All the water runs into the Allen's Mill dam and no enemy can cross or get on Burnside's rear unless he comes down from Old Church and then I'll meet him.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

NOTE.—This note should have gone with Captain Cope.
G. K. W.

JUNE 7, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The staff officer I sent to General Burnside has returned. He reports that 3 of General Burnside's skirmishers were driven away from a spot this morning, and that 12 men were then advanced to the same spot. That the enemy has a Whitworth gun firing at very long range; and, secondly, our troops, from the Matadequin Swamp all along, are in two and three lines intrenched, and I believe it is impossible for any force of the enemy to get through them even by the most desperate efforts. Under these circumstances I do not think it likely that we shall be needed for support to this part of the line,

and if I may suggest, I would do so to the commanding general to hold on to his reserves when he has any till their need elsewhere is very apparent, for in my experience the rumors and fears of the picket-line are too apt to be transmitted up without due investigation. My men will be held at all times as ready as possible to move at once, but to be always ready is to be never ready, for men cannot stand with belts, knapsacks, &c., on all the time without being broken down.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Your dispatch received. There appears to be no probability at present of your being required to support General Burnside.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

JUNE 7, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Griffin reports that he has driven the enemy over Sumner's Bridge, and had sent one or two men across. He lost a few men in getting it. One of General Cutler's brigades has taken possession of this end of the railroad bridge and lost a few men. The enemy fired a great deal with artillery. The railroad bridge is said to be cut and burned. The enemy is intrenched on the opposite side. A considerable cloud of dust was seen, indicating a movement of troops by the enemy. We may be able to cross the stream, but do not know our prospects for advancing afterward.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

JUNE 7, 1864.

It is not desirable that General Warren should cross the river, but hold the crossing to prevent the enemy coming to this side.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

LEARY'S, *June 7*, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the base of a shot fired from the iron-clad car on the railroad. It is a 32-pounder.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMHPREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The loss of men as prisoners which we suffered on the 2d of June, in the regular brigade, perhaps requires this special report from me. We were executing the movement to close in to the left, ordered at army headquarters, by which we were to take part at 5 p. m. that day in an attack. The troops covering the flank of those withdrawing did not stand long enough to give them warning, and their capture resulted. As soon as the enemy's pursuit was ascertained, the same division drove the enemy back. We should not have lost a man as prisoner, if we had not been executing the order to close in to the left.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
June 7, 1864—2 a. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: I have one regiment of Third Brigade on picket that I wish relieved. The enemy has or had a line of infantry pickets in its front last night. Will you please have the matter attended to at once.

Respectfully, &c.,
CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
June 7, 1864—5 p. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: The special order from headquarters Fifth Army Corps, dated June 6, 11 p. m., has been carried out. Our pickets hold the river-bank on this side at Sumner's (lower) Ford and railroad bridge, and a line of pickets is established from the left of the Second Corps to about one-half mile below the railroad. In my opinion, I can cross the river at Sumner's Ford if a bridge is placed over the stream, and a force can be advanced across the open field in front without much opposition. The railroad bridge is a long one, and our troops hold some 30 feet or more on this side. The enemy is intrenched some 800 yards or more on the opposite bank. One brigade is at the railroad bridge, one about a mile from there, and the First Division on the left of the Second Corps, available. There is no enemy on this side of the river in my front, and the pickets of my command occupy the bank of the river. There has been firing along the line at various points. The enemy have been firing at me all day with artillery at Sumner's Bridge. As regards the question as to whether we can cross at Sumner's Ford, I would respectfully state that this can only be answered by trying, if by the question the general commanding means to cross a large force or a

division. Skirmishers have already been across. The above remark will equally apply to the crossing at the railroad bridge. Our troops have driven the enemy's pickets away from the river at Sumner's Ford and at the bridge.

Very respectfully, &c.,

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

A train (construction) is at Dispatch Station, under charge of Captain Jones, assistant quartermaster.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THRID DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN,
Commanding Division, Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: A detachment of my command sent down the railroad have reached the bridge, and report that the bridge is partially destroyed. A picket of the enemy on this side was driven back upon the approach of my men. A reconnaissance at Bottom's Bridge develops the fact that the enemy are not on this side the river at that point.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. CHAPMAN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

[Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN,
Commanding Division, Fifth Corps:]

GENERAL: I am in receipt of communication sent me for information. I had on picket at the railroad bridge, and maintaining a connection with left of the army at Tyler's, a battalion. Subsequently, upon a report of activity by the enemy at the bridge, I sent a second battalion, making an entire force of about 200. In front of Bottom's Bridge I have a squadron, with three companies in reserve near at hand. At Fisher's Ford a company. (Fisher's is about 1½ miles below Bottom's Bridge.) Some 3 miles below, and this side of Long Bridge, I have a battalion picketing and patrolling the roads toward Long Bridge and Jones' Bridge. So soon as the infantry relieve the right of the line I shall make new dispositions, if I deem them necessary, and shall probably move my command down the river farther.

I have not yet personally examined to ascertain what force of the rebels, if any, are on picket this side the river at Bottom's Bridge, but will do so this morning, and endeavor to drive them back. You will recollect there is a low flat on this side, commanded by works on the other, and I am informed they have a section of artillery in position. At Fisher's they have a picket, but not, I think, on this side the river. I inclose you a report* from Major Moore, commander of right of line. I also forward a deserter from the Forty-

*Not found.

ninth North Carolina Regiment, Ransom's brigade. He says that brigade is on the river, south of the railroad, and another brigade the other side railroad. Confirms the report in regard to the railroad iron-clad near the bridge. Says he heard the men say the bridge was partially destroyed. If anything of importance transpires, or the enemy make new dispositions or developments, I will inform you at once.

am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. CHAPMAN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

CIRCULAR ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

The commanding officers of the Second and Third Divisions will hold their commands in readiness to move at a moment's call to the support of General Burnside if necessary.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

There are no changes discernible in the enemy's force or position in my front. In front of the left division some progress was made in opening and improving advanced works, and connecting them with the rear. Positions for two additional guns were prepared. In front of the center an advanced line was opened, which is now being strengthened and connected with the rear. In front of the right nothing was done but to finish works already commenced, and nearly completed a new battery.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

GENERAL: I will send you one of your batteries at once. My own three batteries are so close to the enemy that it is absolutely necessary to relieve them that the men and horses may have some rest. If you still desire it, I will send your other one to you. Mine are in good position, and do good service to both our corps.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT,
Sixth Corps:

I am informed unofficially, based on the report of Colonel Tompkins, that there was yesterday some time on your lines a suspension of hostilities, or some kind of informal agreement between your forces and the enemy, during which your dead and wounded were removed. You will please report whether you have any knowledge of the existence of such a state of affairs, of any communications being held with the enemy, and, if so, by whose authority the same was done.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to Major-General Smith, Eighteenth Corps.)

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—11.05 a. m.

Major-General MEADE.

I had already inquired into the report referred to in your dispatch of 11 a. m., and am assured that no agreement whatever was entered into with the enemy for a cessation of hostilities, but that some time before the cannonading of yesterday afternoon men from both sides brought in their dead lying between the lines, both parties refraining from firing as if by tacit consent, and that this condition of things existed for an hour or more, when the fire of the enemy above alluded to commenced, and was followed by firing along the line. I shall call on Colonel Tompkins for a further report in the matter.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In my brief report of the result of the affair with the enemy at this point on the 1st instant, I reported upward of 500 prisoners captured by this corps, and that in addition some 250 were reported as having been turned over to guards of the Eighteenth Corps during the progress of the attack. Subsequent investigation would seem to show that the later report was an error, as General Smith returns no captures of prisoners by his corps on that day. The investigation discloses the additional fact that of the prisoners sent to the provost-marshal-general of the army, numbering 547 officers and men, one squad of 60 or 70, besides some others subsequently brought in, were actually captured by the Eighteenth instead of the Sixth Army Corps. I make this statement as a correction of my previous report on the subject, and to do full justice to the Eighteenth Corps in regard to the prisoners (perhaps 100 in all) with which that corps should be credited.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Brigadier-General PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General:

I think it very imprudent returning the rebel prisoners through my lines, and believe their reported mission a fraud to get information of the strength of our position. Please answer at once.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—5.27 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: One of General Smith's lines has been posted immediately in front of my camp in rear of my own lines. I am obliged to move my camp, and would like to have instructions given for the telegraph to follow my camp.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—5.35 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

When I sent my message of 5.27 a. m. I was not aware that the telegraph party were here ready to establish my office. I wish to establish my headquarters.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—8.45 a. m. (Received 8.46 a. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Have you any troops at Allen's Mill?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I have no troops at Allen's Mill; I understand that General Warren has a regiment there in position. Major Duane has a sketch of the position occupied by our troops. General Willcox has finished the parallel in front of his line, and has succeeded in driving back the enemy's skirmishers. General Potter drove the enemy from a commanding hill on his right and front, and I propose to extend his line and intrench the hill for a battery, in case we succeed in holding it. It is one of the hills given up on the day General Warren withdrew. Major Morton is now reconnoitering with a view to throwing forward General Crittenden's division.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you send some force, say a brigade, to guard the crossing of the Matadequin at Allen's Mill, and the crossing between your right and Allen's Mill made by the road from Bosher's. The two points are marked in blue on the sketch* inclosed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following just received:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The enemy advanced at 9 a. m. on extreme right of Colonel Christ's brigade, with heavy line of skirmishers, supported by two regiments, and carried 150 yards of the rifle-pits last thrown up and occupied by Christ's skirmishers. Strong line of rebel infantry reported by our pickets moving to our right.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

Your dispatch received. The two divisions of General Warren, near Leary's, are directed to be held in readiness to support you and to move to your support when called upon by you. The commanding general directs that you do not call upon them except in case of absolute necessity, nor until it is apparent your own troops can no longer maintain your line. Does General Willcox's division adjoin General Smith's troops?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Willcox still connects with General Smith's right. The break reported in Willcox's line is on his extreme right.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864. (Received 11.20 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I hope we will not need Warren's divisions. Would it not be well to let a part of Ayres' division take the position in advance of Allen's Mill, and send only one division subject to our call? My brigade has started but can be recalled. One of Warren's regiments is already in that position.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

The commanding general considers it necessary to hold General Warren's command in reserve. They should not be called upon for support until it is absolutely necessary to prevent your being driven out of your works. Warren's regiment at Allen's Mill should be relieved by your troops.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

A sketch of the Matadequin has just been shown me which differs entirely from the photographic sketch furnished me, upon which I marked the two crossings of the Matadequin to be occupied by troops and sent it to you. If the sketch just shown me is right there is no crossing between the crossing near Allen's Mill and your left to be held by troops, and besides the force near Allen's Mill should be on the east side the road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The enemy in considerable force made a sudden attack on the right of my advance division on a crest which they had taken, and were fortifying, and drove my men away after a sharp fight. The attack was made at 3.30 p. m. General Potter, commanding the division, is endeavoring to retake the position.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

JUNE 7, 1864—4.50 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Your dispatch of 4.30 just received. The commanding general directs that you retake the ground lost, bringing up General Crittenden if necessary.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—4.50 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The order has already been given to retake the ground, but the nature of the ground is such that only a few men can work at once. It will be done, however, if possible. As much of General Crittenden's force as can be used will be put on.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

Can I be of any assistance to you?

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—4.30 p. m.

General W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

I am much obliged for your kind dispatch. We hope to hold our own, but it may be well, if you have any reserves, to hold them ready to send to us in case of need, or if any of your batteries can fire upon the attacking force it would help us.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

An application was made to you this morning from Major-General Crittenden to be relieved from duty with this command. Under the circumstances, I am satisfied that it would be better to relieve him. If proper, I would be glad to have an answer, that I can make proper arrangements. You can consider this dispatch confidential or otherwise, as you think the interests of the service demand.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The order has been made, and is on its way to your headquarters, for the relief of General Crittenden.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 8.10 p. m.)

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps.

A dispatch from General Wilson this p. m. reports that his cavalry pickets extend from Gibson's to Bosher's.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The enemy in my front did not respect the flag of truce. My medical director was fired upon as he advanced with a white flag, and a continual fire kept up by the enemy during the whole period covered by the flag.

Respectfully,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I inclose a copy of a note* picked up by some of your command in the skirmish this afternoon. The major-general commanding directs that you arrest Mrs. Bowles, and send her to the provost-marshal general if she is within your lines.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—4.55 p. m.

General CRITTENDEN:

Hold your command in readiness to move to the support of General Potter at a moment's notice. Let the men be under arms and lie down in the rear of their breast-works for protection, ready to move on receipt of orders.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

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*See p. 668.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Woody's House, June 7, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The enemy have been driven from the position they gained on my left—in front of Colonel Christ's brigade, of Third Division. Our line is re-established, though not quite as far forward at the point of junction as it was, but it is a strong connection and ought to hold. The enemy are giving us a pretty lively shelling, and we are losing some men. I have a rifle-pit on the hill so nearly completed that I think I can hold it, and expect to get a couple of guns in position there this afternoon. I am cutting a road directly to it through the wood, corduroying the swamp, which I think will enable me to get guns in and out from that position at any time without trouble.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

Are there troops of any other commands near my extreme right? I heard a brigade or division of the Fifth Corps were off there somewhere. How do Wilson and Ferrero lie as to my present position? If we could get a connection it would prevent their surprising us with any such movement as yesterday's.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—1.45 p. m.

General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

I am glad to hear that the line is re-established. General Ferrero is at Old Church Hotel, and pickets down the branch of the Matadequin as far as Allen's Mill. There are two divisions of General Griffin's not far from the mill, and subject to my order. I have sent Ledlie's brigade across the swamp. He now occupies the two positions marked in blue. A brigade of cavalry is stationed at Linney's and Butler's, picketing to Gilman's and below, on the main road, and down to Mrs. Allen's on the other road. I shall try this afternoon to throw General Crittenden forward, if possible, on a line with the streams in front of the two blue marks, which, I take it, is the swamp the right of your new line will rest upon. Please mark on the inclosed map* your new line, and return it by my orderly. How far is your right (new) from Bosher's?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The red line is nearly correct for the line I have through the swamp. The lead-pencil line I have put on marks the line covering the hill. My picket-line runs around Bosher's house,

*Not found.

a dotted line. This house is hardly far enough north on this map. The Forty-eighth [Pennsylvania] lies on the road. The wagons moved on nearly southeast of Bosher's and west of the road from Gilman's to the Woody house, this side of the stream from the swamp, I should think about in front of the center of the left of General Crittenden, some distance out. I don't think this map is very correct. At any rate, it is difficult to determine where my line is on it. Bosher's house is more than a mile from here by the direct road, and about a third of a mile in a line from where I am intrenching.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The enemy made a sudden rush from the woods on the right of the hill, drove in my skirmishers, and rushed in simultaneously on the rifle-pit I was building, from which, in the confusion, the men fell back and the enemy now hold. My force at this point was some 300 or 400, and there was no excuse for not holding it. The surprise seems to have been complete, and shows that some one was to blame. One of my staff officers happened to be on the line at the time, and reports that the officer in command ran away, calling on his men to fall back. The fighting seems to be pretty sharp just now. I have ordered it to be reseized before the enemy can get any considerable force there, if possible.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—One of General Willcox's staff reports just now that he was in position to see the enemy's advance, and it was a very heavy force.

JUNE 7, 1864.

[General BURNSIDE:]

GENERAL: I do not think it is possible to retake the position from the front, but perhaps from the right; but I will make a reconnaissance at once. It will take a strong force to do it, as the enemy's artillery fire is very hot.

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—3 p. m.

General BURNSIDE:

At 12.30 p. m. Colonel Humphrey reported that his skirmishers had driven the enemy back to within 30 yards of the pits they gained from Colonel Christ. I do not find the reports of the enemy mov-

ing to my right in force worthy of credit; but they will no doubt struggle hard to hold the pits they have gained, as they constitute the extreme right of my advanced parallel, and are not connected with any parallel of the Second Division.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—1 a. m.

Colonel HARHAUS,
Second New York Cavalry:

COLONEL: Yours of the 6th just received. The line you speak of is the proper one until you can open communication across the country, in front of Allen's pond, which will not be practicable until morning, if then. I am inclined to think that there is a pretty heavy force in front of General Potter.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864—8.10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

All is quiet along my front, except skirmish firing. A trench was run from the salient made on night of 4th instant to a point in ravine on my center, thus throwing forward my troops in line and making the line of battle straight. Many of the dead were buried during the night.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your dispatch of 11 a. m.,* and in answer to furnish the following information: General Brooks, commanding First Division, states that an officer went out from his front during yesterday p. m., and at his own risk brought in a wounded man. General Martindale, commanding Second Division, states that the enemy ceased firing and stood upon their works and our men did likewise, supposing a cessation of hostilities was going on according to the request of the commanding general of the army. A rebel officer advanced and informed one of the officers of Second Brigade that unless work was suspended on a battery we were building hostilities would be resumed. Our men and the enemy then resumed their old positions. General Ames, commanding Third Division, states there was no communication along his front.

See p. 679.

During the afternoon of yesterday, between 2 and 3 o'clock, I visited my lines, and was informed by the troops of the first line that an informal agreement had been made with the enemy in their front to stop picket-firing. As this was very much in accordance with my own ideas, I expressed a wish that this state of affairs would extend all along my lines, as my men in the rear lines were suffering severely from such firing. While I was down there an officer of my corps went out under fire to exchange papers. During the night, while our dead were being buried, our men were so near as to hear a rebel officer give orders not to fire on burying parties. This is all with regard to cessation of hostilities or communication with the enemy on my front that I am informed of officially or otherwise.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH.
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. THOMAS WILSON,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Army of the Potomac:

Captain Hill, my acting chief commissary, has gone over to see you this morning. Will you please give him the necessary instructions? Our corps is now fully supplied to the 13th instant, and can return all borrowed supplies.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 7, 1864.

The following explanation of the badges for this corps is given for the information of all the officers of this command: The general commanding corps and his staff will wear the tri-colored cross, marked "Corps Headquarters," worn suspended by a tri-colored ribbon.

First Division: The general commanding division and his staff will wear the red cross, with a triangle in the center, the sides of which shall be of white enamel, suspended by a tri-colored ribbon. The brigade commanders and staff will wear the same division cross, without the triangle, but suspended by the tri-colored ribbon; the number of the brigade will be enameled in white in the center. Line officers will wear the same brigade cross suspended by a red ribbon.

Second Division: The general commanding division and his staff will wear the white cross, with a triangle in the center, the sides of which will be of blue enamel, suspended by the tri-colored ribbon. Brigade commanders and staff will wear the same cross and ribbon, but with the number of their brigade in blue enamel instead of the triangle. Line officers will wear their brigade cross suspended by a white ribbon.

Third Division: The general commanding division and staff will wear the blue cross, with the sides of the triangle of white enamel,

suspended by a tri-colored ribbon. Brigade commanders and staff will wear the same cross, without the triangle, suspended by the tri-colored ribbon, and the number of their brigade in the center in white enamel.

Line officers will wear their brigade cross suspended by a blue ribbon. The cavalry officers will wear a yellow cross, with two crossed sabers in white relief enamel, suspended by a yellow ribbon. Enlisted men the same badge without the ribbon. The artillery officers will wear a blue cross, with a white triangle and two crossed cannon of red enamel, suspended by a red ribbon; enlisted men the same without the ribbon. The crosses will be made with a pin on the back, and the wearer's name and rank, and of such metal as may be chosen. The ribbon is distinctive of a commissioned officer, and the tri-colored ribbon of a staff officer, and no others will be permitted to wear these badges. The crosses will be worn on the left breast. Enlisted men will be furnished as soon as practicable with badges of cloth to be sewed to their left breast.

By command of Maj. Gen. William F. Smith:

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires that you keep yourself posted regarding the state of affairs on General Burnside's left, that you be able to make proper dispositions for your own safety, or in case of necessity to give any assistance that may be possible to give. Please send Captain Musser, commissary of subsistence of one of your brigades, to report here for temporary duty. You will have to detail some one to take his place for a few days.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR-GENERAL, CAVALRY BUREAU:

CAPTAIN: I fully indorse your proposed order in reference to cavalry inspectors. Our difficulty heretofore has been in making our wants known to the bureau. We had no direct channel to communicate through, but now will. Some confusion has occurred in mounting veterans on the horses sent out. This has arisen from the frequent change of depot, and from the fact that the dismounted men were guarding trains and were not available. I have every prospect of having all dismounted men with the trains sent to the White House, and have officers there to take charge of horse or animal. Most of the new regiments and recruits mounted at Port Royal and other places were dismounted as soon as they joined me.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that my pickets have been pushed forward from their position of this morning, forming now a much rectified and strengthened line from Linney's, Gibson's, to Bosher's house. Everything remains quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

JUNE 7, 1864.

Col. J. B. MCINTOSH,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: I have advanced to the road leading to the left, and find on the Mechanicsville road a strong picket of mounted and dismounted men, who fired at my advance. I do not think it safe to advance in the direction of the right of General Burnside, as I might be easily cut off. The people at Mr. Gibson's house say that there is a considerable force on the other side of the swamps. Rebel infantry came up on the left-hand road yesterday afternoon.

I have the honor, colonel, to be, very respectfully, yours,

OTTO HARHAUS.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding.

Col. O. Harhaus is at Butler's. The point designated by him is at the junction of the roads near Gibson's.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

COLD HARBOR, VA., *June 7*, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding U. S. Forces, White House, Va.:

Captain Parker, assistant adjutant-general, goes to White House this morning for the purpose of ascertaining certainly the time when cars can commence running, and the probable time it would take thereafter to remove all the iron from the York River Railroad from the Chickahominy back to White House and place it on board of steamers. I shall not want to use the railroad at all for supplying the army, but will destroy it, so that the enemy cannot use the iron for the purpose of relaying other roads.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

JUNE 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding at White House:

The commanding general directs that you adopt some effective measures for the arrest and return of all stragglers from this army who may reach the White House. It is believed that many men and occasionally officers leave this army without proper authority, and find their way to the White House in the expectation of getting off on the public transports. It is presumed you have already taken the necessary steps to prevent the departure of any unauthorized parties on the transports.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, Va., June 7, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

In compliance with your communications of to-day, by Captain Parker, I have the honor to state that Major Wentz, in charge of the railroad, is at present on duty connected with his operations here. His assistant, McAlpine, has gone, agreeably to my instructions, as far as Summit Station. The foreman says as soon as another locomotive and eight additional cars arrive, which are expected here this evening, the rails can be taken up from Dispatch Station to this point in two days, and the remainder between this and West Point in three, making five days for the whole distance. I herewith inclose a list of cavalry now at this station; also the number of troops sent to the front since May 13.

Very respectfully,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

Cavalry forces at White House, Va.

First New Hampshire Cavalry, Lieut. Col. B. T. Hutchins, 260 uneffective; First Rhode Island Cavalry, Maj. P. M. Farrington, 278 effective; Twenty-fifth New York Cavalry, Capt. James M. Smith, 282 dismounted. Number of troops sent forward since May 13, 1864, all arms, 39,300.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

JUNE 7, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
White House:

All quiet on my lines. Richmond paper of June 7 gives intelligence of a fight at Mount Crawford between General Hunter and General W. E. Jones, in which Hunter was victorious, and Jones, the rebel commander, was killed. Staunton was afterward occupied by the Union forces.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CONFIDENTIAL.] FLAG-SHIP N. ATLANTIC BLOCK. SQUADRON,
James River, June 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: I desire to keep the schooners ready for sinking when I am advised that a controlling military necessity requires that it be done. Judging from the tenor of a dispatch received from the Navy Department last evening, no such precautionary measure seems to be contemplated.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, yours,
S. P. LEE,
Actg. Rear-Admiral, Comdg. N. Atlantic Block. Squadron.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Trent's Reach, James River, June 7, 1864—10 p.m.
(Via Fort Monroe, Va., 5.30 p. m. 8th. Received 6 a. m. 9th.)

Hon. G. WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

No change in the naval situation. This day's Richmond Examiner says General Grant will cross James River and operate against Richmond on the south side.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

IN THE FIELD, *June 7, 1864—2.45 p. m.*

Admiral LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

Your note relating to the sinking of the obstructions is received by hand of Captain Clarke. The necessity of holding our positions here is an overwhelming military one. But how you are to hold yours on the river is, of course, wholly for you to determine.

Respectfully, yours,
BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
June 7, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Captain NORTON:

Three very long trains passed toward Petersburg this a. m. They were composed almost entirely of freight cars, and from the sound and appearance I judge they were empty.

GARRETT,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
June 7, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Two trains have just passed toward Richmond. One was partially loaded with troops and the other entirely with freight. One empty train just passed toward Petersburg.

GARRETT,
Sergeant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
June 7, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

A train of eight cars has just passed toward Richmond, with two of the cars loaded with troops and the rest with freight.

GARRETT,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
June 7, 1864—4.50 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

A small train has just passed toward Petersburg. It appears to be empty.

GARRETT,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

JUNE 7, 1864.

Instructions for general officer of the day:

First. The general officer of the day will have charge of the picket-line only, and will remain upon that line for his whole tour of duty, not leaving it without permission from these headquarters.

Second. All communications between our pickets and those of the enemy will be strictly prohibited, and those violating this order will be placed under arrest and sent to report at these headquarters.

Third. The general officer of the day is the only person authorized to receive a flag of truce. Upon such being sent from the enemy's lines, it will be stopped half way between the pickets and there met by the officer of the day. If the object alleged shall seem to the general officer of the day frivolous, and that the flag is merely sent as cover for any examination of our works, he will retain the bearers of the flag, report the facts, and await instructions. If, on the other hand, he should deem the occasion one in which the truce should be granted, he will immediately forward to these headquarters the credentials presented by the bearer, and notify him to retire until instructions shall have been received. No unnecessary conversation will be permitted, and not more than one officer will be allowed to accompany the general officer of the day to meet the flag.

Fourth. A written report of any movements on the part of the enemy will be promptly transmitted to these headquarters through the mounted orderlies, who report to the general officer of the day.

Fifth. In the event of an attack by the enemy, the pickets will maintain their position as long as possible, retreating only when necessary to avoid being cut off or destroyed. The retreat when made should be conducted as slowly as is consistent with safety, so as to give ample time for preparation to the troops within the intrenchments. The pickets on the right and center in this case should, if possible, retreat by the beaten roads leading to the sally-ports on the right and center of our lines, and thus enable the artillery in the works to be used with effect on the enemy.

Sixth. At the expiration of his tour of duty, the general officer of the day will make a written report, in which shall be included the following particulars: First, the regiments on picket, and their posi-

tion on the line; second, a detailed account of all events of military interest occurring during his tour of duty; third, in case of any casualties occurring a summary of such for each regiment, in which the names of the officers shall be given.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding First Division, Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Major-General Gillmore wishes the brigade of Colonel Hawley to move with 1,400 men, not less; if the command falls short of that number the insufficiency to be supplied from the invalid detachments under your command, or from such other source as you deem best and proper. You will require a report to ascertain the number, verifying the 1,400 men, independent of stretcher corps.

To move with two days' rations instead of three.

Your friend,

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

GENERAL: I figure 1,540, without stretcher corps, but I feel sure of 1,450 fighting men. I have directed each regiment to take a wagon for reserved ammunition and forage, and the brigade wagon for forage and rations for brigade staff. Tell me if I am wrong.

Yours, &c.,

J. R. HAWLEY,
Colonel, &c.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Curtis', Va., June 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. A. HENDERSON,
Seventh New Hampshire Vols., General Officer of the Day:

COLONEL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding, in reply to your communication of this date, to state that the new rifle-pits will be occupied at once, and the old line filled up. The vedettes, however, will be kept upon the same line as before, so as to prevent the enemy from perceiving the change. I inclose code of rocket signals.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 7, 1864.
(Received 10.25 p. m.)

General HINKS:

General Butler directs that you meet him at Spring Hill to-morrow, June 8.

C. J. PAINE,
Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

PORTSMOUTH, *June* 7, 1864.

Captain JOHNSTON:

CAPTAIN: Major Gates has returned from Chuckatuck with loss of only 1 man. He captured the camps of the signal corps and scouts, also 2 of the signal corps and 1 man who informed the enemy of Major Gates' approach. He ascertained who captured the oyster sloop. I have sent to Major Gates to forward the prisoners and a detailed report.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. VOGDES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
June 8, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: To prepare for the withdrawal of the army from its present position, which will take place in a few days, a direct line from the present right to left should be marked out and partially fortified. Such a line can be occupied by the two divisions of the Fifth Corps, now loose, and a sufficient number from other corps, when the movement takes place, to perfectly cover such a withdrawal. General Barnard has been looking to-day with the view of locating such a line, and will direct your chief engineer in the work to be done.

Very respectfully,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

JUNE 8, 1864.

Col. E. SCHRIVER:

The commanding general directs that you at once proceed to make an inspection of the depot at White House, Va., and report upon the condition of the several branches of the service at the depot. A statement showing precisely what troops are at the White House, whether as permanent garrison or en route for this army, as also whether the troops composing the garrison are advantageously posted for the defense of the position. You will also report upon the character of the field-works now being constructed at the White House, and how far they are advanced toward completion. The commanding general further directs that in your examination of the hospitals you ascertain whether any stragglers find their way down with the sick and wounded, and should such persons be found at the hospitals they will at once be turned over to the commander at the White House, to be by him returned to the army.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 8, 1864.

Statement of Mrs. Jane Bowles:

Husband's name is William Bowles. He is at home. He is forty-five years old. Exempted on account of having a large family, 8 in

all. I have been married sixteen years; 1 small son. Live on the Mechanicsville pike, 12 miles from Richmond, 2½ miles from Old Church Tavern. Linney's is about 1 mile from our house. Troops at Old Church mostly negroes. Do not know Lieutenant Henderson, of the Confederate army; know Allen's Mill. Don't know if any U. S. troops are there or not. Don't know Lieutenant Early (C. S.). Have heard talk of him by our soldiers. Have heard his name called, that's all; the same of Lieutenant Henderson. Last Monday evening a Confederate lieutenant and 9 cavalry (and afterward some infantry) were at our house during the firing. My husband and daughter saw him and talked with him. That was the last I have seen any Confederate officer or soldiers. They asked when any of the U. S. soldiers were here. They were soon fired on and went away. On Monday my daughter (Jane S.), with a colored girl of Mrs. Via's, went to Old Church to get supplies. Mrs. Via's girl went also for bread. They went at 10 a. m. and got back about 1 p. m. They got hard bread and coffee. The black girl's name is Harriet. After they got back they told about the troops at Old Church, the flags, and the intrenchments. They said the breast-works commenced by Mrs. Talley's and ran down in the woods. Think they mentioned the general's name commanding; I don't remember it now. They said there were pickets down there by Mrs. Talley's on the road side. It was a lieutenant at our house Monday evening. Don't know his name and had never seen him before. A black fellow (Burrill) of Mr. Allen's went with the girls on Monday. The black man and woman came together to my house and got my daughter to go with them.

Statement of Jane S. E. Bowles, fourteen years old:

Went Monday a. m. to Old Church with Mrs. Via's colored woman and her daughter (small) and Burrill (colored) to get supplies. Saw General Ferrero, who gave us the order. The black man and woman are pretty smart. Saw the troops; right smart of them. Saw ten or twelve flags. Saw the breast-works; they run from Old Church this way, and from Old Church to Mrs. Talley's. Saw wagons, not many. Don't know Lieutenant Early or Lieutenant Henderson. There was an officer (infantry) at our house Monday evening. He came about 3 o'clock from toward the rebel lines, and after talking with me went back. He asked me about the troops; how many I thought there were at Old Church; I told him about 5,000 or 6,000. He asked me about the batteries; where they were. I told him there was one by Mrs. Talley's and one at Old Church. Then he asked me about the breast-works. I forget now what I told him, but I told him what I had seen. He talked to me only a quarter of an hour; stopped a little, then went back the same way he came. A soldier was with him, and 3 or 4 were a little way off at the forks of the road. It is 3 miles from our house to Old Church. My father has been in Fifteenth Virginia Infantry and discharged.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
June 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I respectfully report the foregoing as the examination of the two females sent to me. They are ignorant and simple-minded people, and I have failed to discover the slightest evidence of any

intent on their part. I think they had no idea that they were doing any harm, and that they would have given us information about the rebels with equal readiness had the occasion offered. Mrs. Bowles is very far gone with child, and General Patrick approves a respectful recommendation to the commanding general that they be returned home.

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864.

As it is important that every man of this army should be armed and equipped, if it is possible so to provide, division commanders will have an examination made of their field music, and to those who are able-bodied arms will be issued, and those who are not will be equipped with spade or shovel. Officers who are sick should either be with their regiments or be absent on surgeon's certificate. A great many officers have attached themselves to the general trains of this army on plea of sickness, and remained there without proper authority. Division commanders will send provost guards to their trains in the rear and bring up all those who are absent without proper sanction. Regimental quartermasters who are acting assistant commissary of subsistence should be with their commands, excepting when their trains are in motion, when they should accompany them. It is supposed there is an unnecessary number of employés now with the trains who should be armed and equipped and kept with the troops.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 8, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the right of General Birney's line has not been advanced according to the instructions which I understood to be given by Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan on the afternoon of the 6th. The left of my line has been advanced so as to occupy high ground. It will be necessary either that General Birney's right be correspondingly advanced so as to connect with my left, or else that I abandon this advanced position and retire to a line which is lower than the ground in front, and which cannot be held against any serious assault. I advanced my left in accordance with the general instructions that the whole line was to be thrown forward. I respectfully ask that I be informed whether General Birney's right is to be advanced or Colonel Miles' left retired.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I find by examination that the Matadequin does cross the road to Old Church at the place represented on Major Duane's map of 2 inches to the mile. This very much increases the strength of this line for our right flank to rest upon, for from that point over to the Pamunkey, artillery can be used to command the ground nearly all the way.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

JUNE 8, 1864.

[General G. K. WARREN:]

GENERAL: The enemy ceased shelling about 10 o'clock last night. If a crossing is contemplated, there is a point on the river about a mile below this, where the ground seems firm on both banks and cleared, and which looks to me like the point where the crossing might be made successfully. The enemy has earth-works and shows camp-fires, but this remark holds good for every point along my line where a crossing can be made.

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—7.35 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Before preparations could be made to attack in force the position we lost last evening, the notification of the flag of truce from 6 to 8 came to hand, and after that it was too late to attack with much chance of success. But we made preparations for this morning, Generals Willcox and Potter putting twenty guns in position, General Potter's being within 400 yards of their position. He also pushed a heavy skirmish line very nearly to the top of the hill. The enemy finding the position untenable, left this morning in apparent haste, leaving the intrenching tools. We will hold the hill in force.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

JUNE 8, 1864—8 a. m.

Captain LARNED:

Please send notes to Generals Willcox, Potter, and Ledlie, saying that the attacks upon our lines may have been for the purpose of reconnoitering. If so, they may attack in force to-day. Please have everybody on the alert.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—12.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I think it more than doubtful if I can make the assault I contemplated with any prospect of success. The attack this afternoon seems to have been made with Early's division, of Ewell's corps. They commenced fortifying the position at once, which is a natural bastion on the front. They paid no attention whatever to the flag of truce, working hard all the time, and opening a very heavy fire on our lines, as soon as our fire was slackened, from the two sides only on which we can approach. The position is almost unapproachable. I think it a good deal harder place to attack than Fort Sanders. If Major Morton puts the guns in position and has them ready by morning, in conjunction with those I am placing in position, I think we ought entirely to control the enemy's fire. If we can find a way to get guns to the Bosher house and out again, if necessary, I think we could make the place untenable to the enemy, and such a route I think can be found. There is no doubt but that there is at least one full brigade (with one in support) strongly intrenched on the hill we want to get.

The attack we contemplated making, unless purely a surprise and complete stampede of the enemy, can hardly help failing, for unless attacked in the flank or rear the place ought to be held against six or eight times the number of the division. They have tried to advance two or three times on my front, but without success. I find neither the colonel nor lieutenant-colonel with the Second Mounted Rifles, which is mostly made up of new men and officers, about one-eighth, as the major in command reports, being old men. It will be very difficult to make the attack on the two roads simultaneously, as they are quite distant by the roundabout way we have to go. On the whole, an attack from the road on our right, I think, would promise most favorably, but I cannot feel that there really is any prospect of success, although it may be worth taking the risk, and the effect of a repulse should be taken into consideration. It will take some little time to get ready for the attack, if ordered. The orderly who brings this will wait until you have something for him to bring back. The whole of Crittenden's division should be ready to support the attack when made, if decided on.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—1.20 a. m.

General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: Your note just received. I am satisfied that the attack should not be made. Keep the regiment until morning, and we may think of some other plan.

Very respectfully,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—4.10 a. m.

General POTTER, *Comdg. Second Division:*

GENERAL: I would like very much to see one of your staff officers who was over to the Bosher house yesterday. I believe you told me McKibbin was there when the attack was made. Have you any reports from your line this morning?

Truly, yours,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—6.30 a. m.

General BURNSIDE:

GENERAL: The enemy have given up the position they seized last night, and fallen back, as near as I can judge, about 400 yards to the left. They are building new works within 300 or 400 yards of where I put in a battery last night on my left center. I have ordered Curtin to put his whole brigade on the hill at once and intrench himself there, Griffin to take up the old line on his left, and I will use the Second New York Mounted Rifles to make the right secure, or for what other purpose seems necessary. The enemy seem to have left suddenly, as they left the intrenching tools behind.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE, *Ninth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: Unless I have men enough to fill my line at once I shall be driven from that hill just as certain as the enemy attack me, and the indications now are that the enemy are preparing to attack my right again. I should have the Forty-eighth [Pennsylvania] in position in line with the rest of the division before half an hour, or another regiment at least 600 strong. The latter I could probably get the sooner, although I would prefer the former. The skirmish line of the Forty-eighth connects with Ledlie's on the right. If that line (Ledlie's) would extend over the ground now held by the Forty-eighth's skirmishers, and a regiment march out of the pits on Crittenden's left and relieve the Forty-eighth, I might get them into position at once; but I think that unless that line on the hill is secured before 3 p. m. we will have trouble.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Woody's House, June 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE, *Ninth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: I wish some regiment could be sent to take the place of the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers. My line is entirely

too weak, and unless more force can be put upon it it will be endangered by a strong attack. The position of the Forty-eighth is one that should be held by the First Division, as it covers nearly the whole of the left and center of that line. I have put the Second Mounted Rifles in line, but even with them I have not enough force to fill my single line, and if I am to trust any artillery on that hill the line certainly ought to be strong enough to hold until I can get it out. At present I am not willing to trust any guns there, although I think it would be a great relief to the whole line. I really think my division ought to be relieved, but I do not feel like asking for it without seeing you. Some of my men have been on the skirmish line forty-eight hours without being relieved, and my whole force has been at work all night every night since they have been here, and are getting used up. If the First Division would relieve the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers and connect with my skirmishers to the left of the Bosher house, it would not give them any more duty, and would considerably relieve me. At present most of their force on outpost duty is useless picketing the rear of my line. I inclose a memoranda* found on the field near the right of my line vacated by the enemy. I believe an officer of the cavalry took a copy of it and proposed to arrest the party, which evidently ought to be done at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

I have put three guns in position near the left of my line, within about 400 yards of the enemy's work, which I think will bother them a good deal if they try to advance there. I have sheltered them pretty well.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I did not receive Major Cutting's note of 2.30 p. m., owing to my absence on the picket-line, from which I have just returned. My line extends from a short distance north of Widow Thompson's to a branch of the Matadequin (which rises near Bethesda Church and runs along the line formerly held by the Fifth Corps), where the right rests on the creek and swamp west by southwest of Bosher's. The whole line is thoroughly intrenched, and rather more than three-fifths of a mile in length. I will send you a plot of it as soon as completed. I placed Colonel Peirce with his brigade (who reports but 530 muskets) in the position held by the Forty-eighth, his line of skirmishers extending from the north side of the branch of the Matadequin on the left of Bosher's to a point where it connects with the pickets of the First Brigade (Ledlie's), First Division, my object being to get my own command together, and get Colonel Peirce on the line of his own division, so that he could report to his own division commander, with whose troops he is only in connection. The picket-line which Peirce holds is a very good and important one, and the point where his main force is has been thoroughly intrenched by the Forty-eighth, and is very strong.

* See p. 668.

I shall have all my guns in position by dark. I think I have a position that can't be taken or turned unless the other divisions give way, and which I don't much think will be attacked. I am going to burn a house near my right about dusk, which is too far out for my pickets to hold, and from which they annoy us much.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—6 p. m.

General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

The general commanding desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your note, and to say that your action in burning the house is approved, and that he is well pleased with your arrangements.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General WILLCOX,
Commanding Third Division:

The general commanding directs that if your guns are not already in position to render assistance to the line in case of attack, that they be placed in position at once. The indications are that the line may be attacked this afternoon.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
White House, Va., June 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I find the First Rhode Island Cavalry here, belonging to the Second Division. General Abercrombie claims it as a part of his command. If there are no orders from you assigning it him, should it not be sent to the front? The regiment is mounted, and numbers about 350.

C. KINGSBURY, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
White House, June 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. SETH WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: The directions of General Meade in yours of the 7th have already been complied with. The provisional provost guard

from the Veteran Reserve Corps, under Capt. P. W. Stanhope, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, has been very effective both in securing stragglers and guarding prisoners. Stragglers—enlisted men, and officers, the latter with their buttons and straps cut from their coats, per order to me from Lieutenant-General Grant—have been sent to you guarded. I am unable to make you a full return of stragglers, as Captain Hoysredt, one of General Patrick's staff, has failed to report me the number of men he has secured. Re-enforcements are sent you twice a day, guarding trains, as per General Grant's orders, which say, "When it is practicable, send re-enforcements along to guard the trains," which start from here at 5 a. m. and 4 p. m. Old troops are ordered forward first. The raw troops (some of them are 100-days' militia) come to me wholly untrained in the manual of arms, and should have at least forty-eight hours for drill.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, Va., June 8, 1864.

General M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General, Army of the Potomac, Cold Harbor:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I must commence by saying you know me too well to suppose for a moment that I would throw any obstacle in the way of any officer of your department while in the execution of his duty. All I desire is to know the nature and extent of their authority, and every facility will be afforded him to carry it out. Captain Hoysredt says he has no written instructions, but informs me his special duty here is to prevent all persons from going to the front or leaving for Washington or elsewhere without proper authority, and presumes to decide what constitutes the proper authority, it seems, without reference to yourself or anybody else. For instance, a number of discharged men have been sent from here with the necessary papers showing the fact, whom I have directed the quartermaster to furnish transportation with papers visèd by the provost-marshal. I understand he objects to their being shipped. If he is right, I have nothing more to say otherwise, as I have certain duties assigned to me by the War Department and General-in-Chief.

I am not disposed to allow any subordinate within the limits of my command to place his own constructions upon the intentions and extent of his authority, unless clearly defined by yourself. In order to be prepared for the transportation of the sick, wounded, and prisoners, it is necessary to watch the opportunities for embarking condemned horses and discharged men, so as to prevent an undue collection here, which is always embarrassing, shoving obstacles in the way of their embarkation, only retarding operations here. I am instructed by the general commanding to report all stragglers from the army. All that have been apprehended by the post provost-marshal can be reported. Captain Hoysredt, considering himself entirely independent from my authority here, has failed to report those taken up by himself, which renders it impracticable for me to comply with the instructions I have received.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NAVY-YARD, WASHINGTON,
June 8, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineers:

The New York bridge sent to Bermuda Hundred, consisting of 33 pontoons, 1,000 chesses, 6 trestles, 420 common balks, 170 claw balks, and other material for bridges of 1,300 feet. The remainder, 27 boats and 300 chesses, were ordered stopped in transit, and have probably gone up the James River.

WM. H. PETTES,
Colonel Fiftieth New York Vols., Comdg. Engineer Depot.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 8, 1864. (Received 1.15 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

All quiet on my lines. Richmond papers of June 7 give intelligence of a fight at Mount Crawford between General Hunter and General Jones, in which Hunter was victorious, and Jones, rebel commander, was killed. Staunton was afterward occupied by the Union forces. Fighting was on Sunday.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
June 8, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Bermuda Hundred:

Please accept my thanks for your telegram of this morning containing the agreeable news of the battle at Mount Crawford. No Richmond papers have been received by the Department for the last ten days. It would be a favor if you will forward the dates from the 27th of May, if possible, or at least the latest dates. Major Mulford has entirely neglected his instructions on this point. I would be glad to have a daily report from you. Mr. Lincoln was renominated this morning, and Andrew Johnson, Vice-President.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

BERMUDA, *June* 8, 1864.

General BUTLER:

The Johnson left here in season to get to the dock on the Appomattox at 8 this morning, and must have been delayed by something beyond my control. I gave the order to Captain Dodge last night, and went personally myself this a. m. to be sure that she started in season. The pontoon bridge may have delayed her, or our watches must be wide apart. I will come right out unless you telegraph me to the contrary after this explanation.

FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
June 8, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Two large freight trains have just passed toward Richmond, and one empty train toward Petersburg.

GARRETT,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
June 8, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

The working party of rebels is not directly between my station and the railroad station, but off a little to the left. The number is about 25, and they are dressed in a variety of colors.

GARRETT,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
June 8, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

A train of six cars has just passed toward Richmond, partly loaded with troops.

GARRETT,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

JUNE 8, 1864.

General BUTLER:

I have made the necessary preparations for placing a battery in advance of Spring Hill, and came down to see you about it. The force to cover battery until completed will have to be pretty strong, or we may lose it. I will await your orders at my headquarters.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I take three regiments from Terry and one from Turner, making 1,800 men in all. I had better take a battery, had I not? I have sent for General Kautz, to confer with him before I call again to see you.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

JUNE 8, 1864—5.15 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

I should say take two sections of a battery. Hinks will take a section of his. This is not to be artillery work, but a quick, decisive push.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, June 8, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding First Division:

You will direct Colonel Hawley with his brigade to move at once across the Appomattox, by way of the pontoon bridge near General Butler's headquarters, calling there for a guide. Upon reaching the high ground on the other side of the Appomattox, Colonel Hawley will assume command of the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers and the artillery under Lieutenant Sanger, First Artillery, and there await orders. The command should move without noise.

By order of Major-General Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., June 8, 1864.

Col. A. C. VORIS,
General Officer of the Day:

The brigadier-general commanding directs that, in the event of firing being heard beyond the Appomattox to-morrow morning, and as soon as it occurs, you make such demonstration along the picket-line as shall give the enemy the impression that an attack on their line is intended. You will not, however, assault their rifle-pits.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., June 8, 1864.

Major TRUMBULL,
First Connecticut Artillery:

The brigadier-general commanding directs that, in the event of firing being heard beyond the Appomattox to-morrow morning, you immediately open upon the enemy's works with artillery under your command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., June 8, 1864.

Col. J. R. HAWLEY,
Commanding Second Brigade:

One of Colonel Plaisted's regiments has been ordered to report to you as garrison for your part of the intrenchments during your absence. It will probably be the One-hundredth New York Volunteers. Tell Rodman what position they had best occupy in case you are obliged to depart before their arrival. General Terry directs it.

Respectfully, &c.,

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., June 8, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Colonel HAWLEY,
Commanding Second Brigade:

You will move at once with your brigade across the Appomattox, by way of the pontoon bridge near General Butler's headquarters, calling there for a guide. Upon reaching the high ground on the other side of the Appomattox, you will assume command of the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers and the artillery under Lieutenant Sanger, First U. S. Artillery, and there await orders. The command should move without noise. If you are ignorant of the road to General Butler's headquarters, the bearer will guide you.

By order of Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, near Curtis', Va., June 8, 1864.

Col. H. M. PLAISTED,
Eleventh Maine Vols., Comdg. Third Brigade:

COLONEL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to request that you send immediately one of the two remaining regiments of your command to report to Col. J. R. Hawley, commanding Second Brigade, for the purpose of holding the intrenchments in his front during the absence of his brigade.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 8, 1864—3 p. m.

General HINKS:

Inclosed you will find your map.* I believe it to be correct. You will get all ready to move so as to strike the enemy at daylight. General Gillmore will be over with a brigade during the night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

JUNE 8, 1864. (Received 11 p. m.)

General HINKS:

General Butler directs me to say that General Gillmore, with his column, will be at the pontoon bridge between 11 and 12 o'clock to-night. He directs that you have a staff officer at the bridge to guide the troops to the Jordan's Point road, to a good place to rest within the pickets. Also that you meet General Gillmore for consultation at the bridge at midnight. Please acknowledge receipt.

C. J. PAINE,
Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

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*Not found.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 8, 1864.

Colonel DUNCAN:

COLONEL: General Butler directs that you have your command in readiness to march this p. m. at dark, with one day's rations and 60 rounds of ammunition.

Very respectfully,

C. J. PAINE,
Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 8, 1864.

General KAUTZ,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to say that the movement of which he spoke to you will be made, and that you will make preparations accordingly. The general also wishes to see you before it is made.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. PAINE,
Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS KAUTZ'S DIVISION,
In the Field, near Point of Rocks, Va., June 8, 1864.

Col. S. P. SPEAR,
Commanding Second Brigade:

Order of march: The Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry will move between the hours of 11 and 12 p. m. from camp and cross the Appomattox on the pontoon bridge, followed by Lieutenant Morton's section of artillery and the howitzers. The Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry will move immediately afterward, followed by the detachment from the First District of Columbia Cavalry.

By command of Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz:

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,
In the Field, June 8, 1864.

Col. R. M. WEST,
Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry:

COLONEL: The colonel commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness to move at 12 o'clock to-night. Three days' rations in the haversack and 20 quarts of oats on the horse will be supplied each man. No vehicles of any description will be allowed excepting ambulances.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. FRANK CUMMINGS,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Lieut. Col. George Stetzel, commanding Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry.)

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM, *June* 8, 1864.
(Received 2.30 a. m. 10th.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Can the Department dispatch several gun-boats from the Potomac to the York River, to answer calls from that quarter? No change in the naval situation here.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. ARMIES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 9, 1864—7.30 a. m.
(Received 3 a. m. 10th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

All re-enforcements sent hereafter please send to City Point.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *June* 9, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
In the Field:

General Meade has asked for twenty-two Coehorn mortars. This requisition cannot be filled without taking a part of those on transports for Colonel Abbot, as ordered by you. Shall these be taken and sent to General Meade?

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 9, 1864—7.30 p. m. (Received 10th.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Will start back early in the morning. General Gillmore with 2,000 men started to-day to demonstrate on Petersburg, while Kautz with 1,500 cavalry was to go around, enter Petersburg, if practicable, and destroy railroad bridge, and to go south on the railroad. Gillmore reconnoitered the enemy's works and has returned, finding them strong. Kautz has not yet been heard from.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

JUNE 9, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor herewith to transmit certain communications recommending Col. George H. Chapman, Third Indiana Cavalry, Col. J. B. McIntosh, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, Col. D. D. Bidwell, Forty-ninth New York Volunteers, Col. O. Edwards, Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, Capt. F. Winthrop, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, Col. J. L. Chamberlain, Twentieth Maine Volunteers, Col. E. S.

Bragg, Sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, Col. J. W. Hofmann, Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, for the appointment of brigadier-generals. I make no special recommendations in these cases as I have not been called upon for recommendations, and as I am not aware what vacancies exist at the present time in the grade of brigadier-general, and how many of such vacancies, if any, it is proposed to fill from the Army of the Potomac. I would respectfully recommend, however, that when the number of such appointments allotted to the Army of the Potomac has been determined upon, the appointments be conferred upon the most meritorious of the officers whose names have been or may be presented for advancement, as shown by the record of their services and the testimonials of their commanders, without regard to other considerations. It is proper to add that Col. George H. Chapman, Third Indiana Cavalry, and J. B. McIntosh, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, have heretofore been recommended to the War Department for the appointment of brigadier-general.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
June 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the officers of this department not serving with army corps are occupying such stations of observations as this level country affords—mostly in tree-tops. The south or west bank of the Chickahominy has been kept under close surveillance during the past three or four days. There have been no changes of any moment visible. No movement of troops, and little work done upon their intrenchments by the enemy along the river bank. These observations extend to below Bottom's Bridge, and at every open point their earth-works (very ordinary ones) are seen. The guns at the several points are: Three bearing upon Bottom's Bridge, four in vicinity of railroad bridge, one or two at an old ford above railroad bridge, and three east of the Dudley house. Few men are visible, and but little smoke and dust. Eight or ten wagons were seen moving during the day. Not all in one train or place, but scattered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 31. } *Near Cold Harbor, Va., June 9*, 1864.

While the Army of the Potomac continues to operate separate and independent of other armies, Brig. Gen. J. G. Barnard, chief engineer of the armies in the field, will report to and receive orders from Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, commanding same.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 157. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *June* 9, 1864.

1. Two days' subsistence will be drawn from the trains and issued to the troops to-day, which will give four days' rations on the persons of the men from to-morrow morning. The wagons thus emptied will be sent to the White House for additional supplies, accompanied by the proper officers of the subsistence department, to draw the stores.

* * * * * * *

5. All letters that may have been sent to this army for officers and soldiers who have been killed or are now absent on account of wounds or sickness, and which have not otherwise been disposed of, will be sent to the post-office at Washington, and the letters so returned will have an indorsement stating, so far as practicable, whether the persons to whom they are addressed have been killed or are absent by reason of wounds or sickness.

6. No communication will be had with the enemy unless especially authorized from these or superior headquarters, or except so far as may be necessary to properly receive a flag of truce coming from the enemy's lines. All other communication is strictly prohibited, whether by means of conversation, signals, or otherwise, or by interchange of newspapers or commodities. Corps commanders will see that the unauthorized intercourse with the enemy, which it is known has from time to time taken place, notwithstanding the reiterated orders upon the subject, is no longer tolerated.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 9, 1864—11.25 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I have sent to headquarters a rebel deserter from Hill's corps, who came in this morning. He says there are two bridges across the Chickahominy—one at Turkey Hill and one above. He came over one of them, a timber bridge, when he came to this place.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE,
June 9, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Maj. JOHN HANCOCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: The officer in charge of the forces in our advanced work on the hill reports a column of the enemy moving to our left—the enemy's right. He has observed it for half an hour, but cannot hold his head up long enough to determine whether there is artillery with the column.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. BEAVER,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 9, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding.

FRANCIS C. BARLOW,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

[Second indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded.
Colonel Beaver is at the salient by the McGee house.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

SECOND CORPS,
June 9, 1864—8.15 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

For half an hour before dark a column of the enemy was seen moving to the right. This was seen from in front of the McGee house.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 9, 1864—8.25 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch of 8.15 p. m. is received. Was the enemy seen moving to their right or to our right?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SECOND CORPS,
June 9, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

To our right, I understood. I sent the original communication by an orderly to General Williams, which, I think, will explain. If not, let me know.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General BARLOW,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that the information of the movements of the enemy communi-

cated by Colonel Beaver was much more complete and satisfactory than most of the reports of this nature that reach him, and he desires you to express to Colonel Beaver his gratifications.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

JUNE 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN GIBBON,
Commanding Division, Second Army Corps:

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of the charges* prepared by you against Brigadier-General Owen, and to say that the same will be brought to trial as soon as the state of the service will permit. At the present moment, however, it is not practicable to assemble a suitable court in the case.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 9, 1864—10.45 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: A column of the enemy was seen about sundown passing toward your front from the direction of General Barlow's command. It is not known whether they massed in your front or passed on. The major-general commanding sends you this information that you may be prepared for any possible demonstration against your command in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 9, 1864.

General MEADE:

DEAR GENERAL: After fully studying the matter over to myself, I venture to suggest to you that it would be best to allow Captain Mackenzie to be made colonel of the regiment.† I won't weary you by going over all the reasons I have for saying so, but will limit myself to saying that as he remains with us his efficiency as an engineer alone will be greatly increased; and, if necessary, you can take him from his regiment with his rank and put him on engineer duty alone. As a comparison of the benefit of this thing I mention my position and Tyler's at Yorktown and Abbot's just now. Besides Mackenzie is a gem of a man. I know him well, because I taught him mathematics for two years. Saving that he is young

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* See Part I, p. 435.

† Second Connecticut Heavy Artillery.

and inexperienced, there is not a better man in all my acquaintance than he. I say nothing about his own personal advancement, because I know you appreciate that as much as any one can. General Wright will, I have no doubt, consider him as his share of engineer detail to his corps, if but one is allowed. I will agree to do my share without any one, so that Gillespie, who has been assigned to me, can be sent elsewhere. I am so prejudiced, it may be, in my opinion that I would let every engineer officer we have take a regiment in the army, if he can get the commission.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 9, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 9.20 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

There is nothing of interest to report from my front this morning. Working parties were engaged during the night in strengthening our works, and the enemy was similarly employed. Considerable firing on these parties during the night from both sides.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 9, 1864.

General BURNSIDE:

General Willcox reports the ordinary amount of picket-firing in his front. General Potter reports a slight increase in the picket-firing, owing to the enemy's desire to trouble his working parties. All quiet in front of First Division.

Respectfully,

P. M. LYDIG,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 9, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

All is quiet in my front.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 9, 1864—9 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH.

The commanding general desires to have, as soon as practicable, the number of wounded recovered and dead buried in front of your lines during the armistice of the evening of the 7th instant, and also whether any of the enemy's wounded were brought in or dead buried at the time by your command.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 9, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Sixty-nine of our dead found and buried. No rebels. Some of our dead had been buried on previous night by our men at risk of their lives. Some of our dead were partially stripped, and no evidence to show that rebels had any.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 9, 1864—10.05 a. m.

Major-General SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

General Weitzel showed me your telegram in relation to forwarding your suggestions in regard to negro troops. My reasons for not forwarding them sooner are, that I had a conversation on the subject with the lieutenant-general, in which your recommendations were substantially to be carried out, as a portion of them have already been. The colored battery has been withdrawn from the front and sent for drill to Portsmouth, in order that the experiment of using negroes for artillery may be tested fully. A very competent brigadier-general for those troops under your command has been appointed, and they will be at once reorganized, and I doubt not the lieutenant-general will attach to our command the negro troops now in General Burnside's corps. The delay has also been rendered necessary by the expected arrival of other negro troops in this department. I beg leave to assure you that it was from no disrespect to your suggestions, as they are valuable, but from a belief that the interests of the service required a little delay, that they have not been forwarded. After receiving this, if you prefer, you are at liberty to forward them directly, with a copy of this note.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, Hdqrs. Armies of the United States
(Through Headquarters Army of the Potomac):

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward to you a list* of the staff now serving with me at these headquarters. I would respectfully state that the corps staff, excepting the assistant adjutant-general, who has never been appointed, are now with General Butler, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina. I find it impossible to detail officers of my command, the officers most suitable to fill staff appointments, on account of the fearful loss of field officers from the late engagements. I started from General Butler's command with five brigades of this corps and four of the Tenth Corps. I have since consolidated the whole into three divisions of the Eighteenth Corps. I respectfully ask that the status of this

*Not found.

command be settled now, and that I be allowed either to appoint or send forward names to fill the corps staff, or that the names I may send in may be detailed temporarily with me.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 9, 1864.

The Cavalry Corps will march at 7 a. m. to-day to Dunkirk. The following will be the order of march, viz: First, First Division, Brigadier-General Torbert; second, pontoon train; third, Second Division, Brigadier-General Gregg. Brigadier-General Gregg will detail one regiment as rear guard of the column.

By command of Major-General Sheridan:

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
June 9, 1864.

Capt. L. SIEBERT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report everything quiet on my line. The officer in front of Bottom's Bridge reports that the enemy's bugles sounded in the night, and the movement of wheels from their right to left could be heard for several hours afterward. I have moved my command some 3 miles farther down the river into a clean locality, and have established pickets as far as Jones' Bridge, about 9 miles from here. A party crossed the river at Jones' Bridge yesterday, and to the high land beyond, and saw no indications of the presence of the enemy in that vicinity. I should state that there is no apparent change in the enemy's pickets at Bottom's Bridge.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. CHAPMAN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Near Cold Harbor, Va., June 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding U. S. Forces, White House, Va.:

GENERAL: Direct all organized troops arriving at the White House from and after to-day to proceed, without debarking from transports they may be in, to City Point or Bermuda Hundred, and there report to Major-General Butler, commanding.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, Va., June 9, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *Comdg. Forces, U. S. Army:*

GENERAL: Yours of this date in relation to debarkation of organized troops is received. I have three regiments here of 100-days' militia from Ohio. They arrived here before receipt of your letter. Shall I send them by water? These regiments were landed here before receipt of your order. The engineer constructor, Major Wentz, informs me the road cannot be taken up and shipped before Sunday a. m., June 12. The medical director says all the sick can be got away in twenty-four hours.

I am, respectfully,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 9, 1864—7 p. m. (Received 2.15 p. m. 10th.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

Your dispatch received. Permit me to congratulate the President upon his renomination. I trust it will give quiet to the country and strength to the cause. I certainly will send telegraphic communications when I have anything to communicate that will be of the slightest interest. Everything has been quiet on my lines up to to-day. Last night I sent a force with Generals Gillmore and Hinks to make a demonstration on Petersburg on the one side, while General Kautz, with his cavalry, should attempt to get in on the other. The infantry was under the command of General Gillmore, who has returned, having failed to force the fortifications, but having met with no considerable loss. General Kautz is still out, with orders to cut the Weldon and Petersburg Railroad once more. He has 1,400 well-mounted men with him. I would be very glad to forward the Richmond papers, but I only get mine through my pickets. Communication through flag of truce is cut off—first, because of a communication by myself to Commissioner Ould making inquiry whether negro soldiers would be treated as prisoners of war if captured; secondly, sending up for wounded prisoners, which they refused to deliver, I having refused to deliver well ones until that question is definitely settled This was in obedience with my instructions from the lieutenant-general. Major Mulford, you will see, therefore, is not in fault. He and his boat are engaged in conveying wounded soldiers and prisoners to hospitals. Whenever there is anything of interest in the Richmond papers I will see that it is communicated by telegraph. Hunter's fight was on Sunday.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 9, 1864—5 a. m. (Received 10.55 a. m.)

General BENHAM:

Colonel Comstock, of General Grant's staff, is here, and from the information he brings, although no orders to that effect, I believe you would do well to come up here at once.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *June* 9, 1864.

General BUTLER:

Yours of 5 a. m. just received, and as the boat was leaving I went down at once, to direct one of my staff officers to explain verbally and fully my situation here, as he may reach you before this does. The orders of General Meade are so distinct for me to remain here with my special material until his further orders, or those of General Grant, should the presence of myself, men, and material be necessary with you, would not this be safely accomplished for me by an order of Colonel Comstock, now with you, given in the name of General Grant?

H. W. BENHAM.

FORT MONROE, *June* 9, 1864.

General BUTLER:

A rumor has just reached me, which may however not be true, that you have many vessels up there loaded with stone, ready to sink in the channel, I suppose, to prevent the coming down of the rebel vessels; for if true and this is not already arranged, allow me to suggest that these vessels should, if possible, all be connected together by two or three heavy chain cables between each to complete the obstruction, such cables I presume being easily obtained at the Norfolk navy-yard.

H. W. BENHAM.

SIGNAL TOWER,
Cobb's Hill, June 9, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

The following is the result of my observations for the last half hour:

Saw a squadron of cavalry in outskirts of Petersburg on the left; saw eight heavy siege guns cross the turnpike at the railroad station going toward Richmond; also two trains of cars going same way; one of twelve and the other of thirteen cars. The former contained about five companies of troops; all the remainder freight. Petersburg certainly appears evacuated.

D. L. CRAFT,
Second Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS,
Broadway, June 9, 1864—3.40 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

My command has just crossed the river; some of it has been delayed by losing the road. I have no doubt that the enemy are fully apprised of our movement by the noise of the bridge. It is not muffled at all, and the crossing of the cavalry can be heard for miles.

Yours,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Copsa's, Va., June 9, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Colonel Hawley will approach Petersburg by the City Point road, General Hinks on the Jordan's Point road. General Kautz is well in advance, with directions to approach on the Jerusalem road. I recommend that the pickets of the Spring Hill garrison be increased and thrown forward beyond Rushmore's as a demonstration.

Respectfully, &c.,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Elick Jordan's, June 9, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I found the enemy prepared for me, to all appearances. A prisoner says our movement was known at 1 this morning, and that re-enforcements arrived by railroad. General Hinks, on the Jordan's Point road, says he cannot carry the work in his front, and that since he arrived there at 7 a. m. two more regiments have been added to the intrenchments, coming from the city. In Hawley's front the works are as strong, I should think, as our own on Terry's front. In my opinion, they cannot be carried by the force I have. Distant firing on my extreme left has been heard for the last hour and a half. I, therefore, judge that Kautz finds himself opposed. I am about to withdraw from under fire in the hopes of hearing from him.

Very respectfully, &c.,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

JUNE 9, 1864—2.20 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

Your dispatch of 12.30 received. I grieve for the delay in getting off the expedition this morning. I hope Kautz has been more successful in getting in. You do not speak of any loss. I send you a note* from Surgeon McCormick, which please preserve. Not on the ground, I cannot advise. No troops have passed over railroad or turnpike since 6 o'clock this morning.

Yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Baylor's Saw-Mill, June 9, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

General Hinks, who was on the left, says the last firing from General Kautz was heard at 12 o'clock, apparently just where it commenced. After waiting under the intrenchments until about 1 o'clock to hear further from him I gradually withdrew to Baylor's, and then

*Not found.

waited until 3.30 o'clock. Both General Hinks and myself think Kautz has gone to cut the railroad; that was understood to be his intention. As I was directed to return to-night, I do not feel justified in delaying here any longer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

JUNE 9, 1864—8.25 p. m.

General GILLMORE:

I have ordered your escort back. General Kautz is at my quarters, having come from the inner line of intrenchments of Petersburg, having carried the outer and only line of intrenchments.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GILLMORE'S,
June 9, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

It seems very strange that General Kautz did not communicate with me at all, knowing as he did that my command was in two parts, beyond supporting distance of each other, and that circumstances might render it necessary to draw them back and get them together, as was the case. It was not until after 3.15 that my command was more than twenty minutes' march from the intrenchments, waiting there to hear from General Kautz.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, June 9, 1864—1.25 a. m.

Colonel ABBOT,
Chief of Artillery:

Major-General Butler desires that you have the 20-pounders open from Spring Hill upon the railroad as soon as firing commences toward Petersburg. They should be in position by sunrise. Send to General Butler for any orders he may have on the subject.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIEGE ARTILLERY,
June 9, 1864.

Capt. ALFRED MORDECAI,
Chief Ordnance Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

CAPTAIN: I wish to officially state that the percussion shells furnished for my 30-pounder Parrott guns are unfit for service. They consist of the old banded Schenkl projectile, which only exceptionally can be made to take the grooves (whether the metallic cover be removed or not) from a Parrott rifled gun. They were condemned more than a year ago, and a careful trial here satisfies me that this was proper. Several days ago I made a requisition for the proper

Parrott percussion, but the supply forwarded consists of the Schenkl or Hotchkiss, neither fit for my guns. If I am to use my guns upon the rebel fleet, I must have the proper percussion shells to be able to produce satisfactory results.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Col. 1st Conn. Artillery, and Chief of Artillery for Defenses.

JUNE 9, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

The enemy reply slowly. I have slackened our own fire and propose to make it still slower. I do not think it best to cease entirely yet. The enemy's fire is from their three or four guns in our front and one or two at Howlett's.

A. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

Detained by break in wire.

PORTSMOUTH, *June* 9, 1864.

Captain JOHNSTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Lieutenant-Colonel Evans and Major Preston have returned from their expedition without any casualty. They captured over 100 horses. A written report is expected to-morrow.

I. VOGDES,
Brigadier-General.

FORT MONROE, *June* 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General SHEPLEY,
Commanding:

Telegraph line between Gloucester Point and West Point has been down since 7 o'clock last evening. General Carr's assistant adjutant-general says he has no cavalry to escort our repairers, and considers it useless to send infantry as they cannot go fast enough. There seems to be no prospect of repairing this line under these circumstances. Some arrangement is necessary at once, as all dispatches from the Army of the Potomac to Washington go over that line.

GEO. D. SHELDON,
Manager.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
Farrar's Island, June 9, 1864—10 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, 4 p. m. 10th. Received 2.30 a. m. 11th.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

A flag-of-truce tug came this afternoon to deliver a letter from Mr. Ould to Major Mulford. The army lookout on the hill near us has several times reported seeing the smoke stacks of the rebel steamers above Chaffin's Bluff.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 10, 1864—4 p. m.
(Received 1.45 a. m. 11th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Please order Captain McAlester here if he can be spared from West Point; also order the saw-mill at Fort Monroe to saw all the 2-inch lumber they can, and place it on board barges, subject to my order. The Coehorn mortars on transports leave where they are. We will not want them now.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1864—11 p. m.

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War:

Please say to General Meade that the lying report alluded to in your telegram* was not even for a moment believed by the President or myself. We have the most perfect confidence in him. He could not wish a more exalted estimation of his ability, his firmness, and every quality of a commanding general than is entertained for him.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864.

Capt. G. H. MENDELL,
Engineer:

SIR: I am directed by the commanding general to inquire whether the field-works constructed at the White House under your direction are adapted to a good defense of the place by the permanent garrison estimated at, say, 1,400 men; and if not, what force do you consider required to defend the position, except against a very superior force of the enemy?

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
June 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I submit the following report of an inspection of the depot at White House, Va., made pursuant to the commanding general's instructions of the 8th instant. Statement A, herewith, exhibits the troops at the depot, 225 officers and 5,342 men, of whom 35 officers and 1,341 men are reported as constituting the "permanent garrison." These last were inspected by me to ascertain their character and condition. The detachments of the Veteran Reserve Corps

*See 4 p. m., Part I, p. 94.

are not fit for duty in the field, being entirely unable to march or perform any fatiguing work. This statement of the commanding officer is confirmed by their appearance, &c.; they are well supplied in every respect. The Sixty-seventh Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers are in good condition, needing only a little clothing, for which requisitions have been made. The First Rhode Island Cavalry is in admirable condition, and the horses in excellent order. The Third New Jersey Battery, six 12-pounders, is in good condition. The provost guard is comprised of some 60 regular infantry and a detachment of Veteran Reserves, whom I did not inspect. Besides the above commands, I looked at the One hundred and thirty-second Ohio National Guard, 100-days' men, and the Thirteenth Ohio, dismounted cavalry. Troops more unfit for the field I never saw. The troops of the permanent garrison are well disposed for the defense of the post.

The field-works are completed. They consist of five redoubts, in which are to be sixteen guns, connected by rifle trenches. All the public property which is on land, troops, sick, &c., except some regiments en route, are between this line and the river, on which the termini rest. There is also a small interior line nearer the river for a reserve force. Two small works are at Cumberland Point, about 5 miles down the river, and held by 100 men. I think any attempt the enemy can make on the depot might be easily resisted with the present arrangement. The various supplying departments of the staff are in admirable working order. Supplies of every kind are abundant, and the means of delivering them are convenient and ample. Officers were attentive to their duties, and order is everywhere observed.

The wounded and sick are all in camp. The tents are sufficiently numerous and so pitched as to afford them good accommodations. They appear to be doing well, and to receive every attention in the way of medical supplies. diet, nursing, &c.

On 7th of June there were 5,400 treated, and 17 deaths; on the 8th of June there were 5,450 treated, and 25 deaths; on the 9th of June there were 4,006 treated, and 47 deaths. Six hundred can be removed daily in the regular transports; but all now in hospital could be sent away in forty-eight hours if an emergency demanded, by using ordinary vessels—those not expressly fitted up for the purpose.

The police in and about the hospital camp is not all that could be desired. This is somewhat due to the absence of discipline, which must always obtain in establishments of the kind hastily prepared, and where there are persons employed who do not belong to the service. The attention of the commanding officer and the medical director has been called to this and some minor defects, and an improvement, no doubt, will be immediately wrought.

The provost-marshal's department is active in preventing the sale of liquor, which was being introduced in some cases by employés in vessels bringing supplies and troops to the depot. The subject of straggling has their particular attention, and every effort is made to prevent unauthorized soldiers from loitering about or leaving in outward-bound transports. Surgeons in charge of hospitals have instructions to turn over all persons not properly belonging to their hospitals to the provost-marshal of the post.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

ED. SCHRIVER,
Inspector-General.

[Inclosure.]

STATEMENT A.

Report of U. S. Forces at White House, Va., commanded by Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie.

Command.	Present for duty.		Remarks.
	Officers.	Men.	
18th Regiment Veteran Reserve Corps, Col. Charles F. Johnson	6	408	Permanent garrison.
Detachment 10th and 11th Regiments Veteran Reserve Corps, Maj. A. E. Niles.	5	121	Do.
132d Ohio National Guard, Col. Joel Haines	39	767	En route to army.
67th Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Col. John F. Staunton	6	261	Permanent garrison.
28th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. C. S. Russell	26	378	En route to army.
1st Rhode Island Cavalry, Maj. P. M. Farrington	12	198	Permanent garrison.
13th Ohio Cavalry (dismounted), Lieut. Col. N. H. Hixon	15	464	To be returned to army when mounted.
3d New Jersey Battery, Capt. C. Woerner	3	136	Permanent garrison.
Provost guard, Capt. P. W. Stanhope	3	217	Do.
138th Ohio National Guard, Col. S. S. Fisher	36	756	En route to army.
155th Ohio National Guard, Col. H. H. Sage	34	737	Do.
37th Wisconsin Volunteers, Lieut. Col. A. O. Doolittle	23	521	Do.
179th New York Volunteers, Lieut. Col. F. B. Doty	17	378	Do.
Total	225	5,342	

WHITE HOUSE, VA., *June* 9, 1864.

ROBERT L. ORR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

This return does not embrace General Abercrombie and his staff.

E. S.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
Camp near Cold Harbor, Va., June 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report for the information of the general commanding that probably most of the transports employed in transporting the Eighteenth Army Corps to White House have been unloaded and used to send away wounded and unserviceable property. Some are still at White House with stores which belong to the corps. Captain Pitkin had positive orders to detain no transports at that depot, but to keep all actively employed. In order, therefore, to insure the prompt movement of General Smith's command from the Chickahominy to Bermuda Hundred, on his arrival at Cole's Ferry, I would respectfully recommend that Lieut. Col. H. Biggs, chief quartermaster at Fort Monroe, or other competent officer, be ordered to assemble suitable transports, and to be at the time and place designated, in person, to superintend the transportation. Colonel Biggs, for instance, will have it in his power to call in all the boats that may be available in the Potomac, Pamunkey, and James Rivers. If the means of embarkation are not good in the Chickahominy, time will be gained by sending the corps direct from White House.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brig. Gen. and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864—11 p. m.

Respectfully forwarded.

I agree with General Ingalls in the suggestion that Lieutenant-Colonel Biggs be directed to prepare the necessary transportation. In regard to the suggestion that the command should be embarked at the White House, as it is only contemplated embarking infantry, I should think the shorter water route, from Cole's Ferry to Bermuda Hundred, would cause the operation to be greatly hastened, although the facilities may not be so good for embarking the troops.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
June 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Six deserters were forwarded this a. m. from the headquarters of the Fifth Army Corps. They are from Ransom's brigade, of Ransom's division, and make the following statement: Five of them belong to the Forty-ninth North Carolina Regiment, and deserted their picket-post at 9 o'clock last night, near the railroad bridge crossing the Chickahominy. They state that their brigade is about three-quarters of a mile back of the swamp, extending across and below the railroad toward Bottom's Bridge. One of them, from the Thirty-fourth North Carolina, of the same brigade, crossed an hour later, and states that his company was unexpectedly relieved about 10 o'clock last night by the Twenty-second North Carolina Regiment, and it was understood the brigade had marching orders, and was going to the south side of the James River; also, that it had been rumored for several days in camp that Butler was pressing toward Petersburg, and the brigade would have to be sent there. This brigade consists of five North Carolina regiments, commanded by Brig. Gen. M. W. Ransom. Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom commands a division, consisting of M. W. Ransom's brigade, Elzey's reserves (scattering city battalions, Richmond home guards, &c.), and a command of cavalry, Butler's (South Carolina) brigade.

These men have little knowledge of what is going on here, as their brigade left North Carolina a short time ago and arrived in our front last week. They represent their regiment as about 400 for duty, and think it the largest in the brigade. One of the best informed says they have about 1,800 for duty. They form the extreme right of the infantry line, and are joined by Butler's brigade of cavalry. Elzey's brigade is in their rear nearer the city. They have erected slight works, about three-fourths of a mile to the rear of the Chickahominy, along their line, but have taken no position that they expect to hold. They are joined on the left by Hoke's command, they think, Clingman's brigade, which they know little or nothing about. They give a very accurate description of the railroad battery, which is a 64-pounder rifled gun, mounted upon a strong wooden car, the front of which is heavily plated on an angle protecting the gun and wheels of the car. The gun is fired through an opening or port, and

has very little range. The sides of the car are not plated or protected. It was last fired from a cut which gave protection to the sides. The feeling of the troops in their brigade is not very buoyant, and it is generally thought the force for the protection of Richmond is altogether too small. It is not believed that their new troops and conscripts will make a good fight, and but few of the old troops are left. General Beauregard makes a visit to Lee's front occasionally, and was there a day or two since in company with Generals Lee, Ransom, and Bragg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel and Deputy Provost-Marshal-General.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPT.,
June 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: No changes made by the enemy upon the west bank of the Chickahominy, excepting the following, viz: The smokes in the woods along the railroad were somewhat more numerous to-day than yesterday. A small camp, consisting of four wall-tents, was pitched about 2 miles west of railroad bridge; several squadrons of cavalry moved westward on the Nine-Mile road toward Old Tavern. A train of twelve wagons was seen in the vicinity of Savage Station moving westwardly. A small working party was engaged upon their intrenchments opposite Bottom's Bridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Captain and Signal Officer.

BALTIMORE, MD., *June* 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Army of the Potomac:

DEAR SIR: A certain penny-a-liner of the New York Herald, writing from the headquarters of the Fifth Army Corps, having recently said that my removal from the Army of the Potomac arose from an error on my part in opening the lines, and thus exposing my division to capture, and the whole line to loss, I feel it a duty to myself to let you and my friends near you into the facts of the case. You must pardon me this letter which shall be as short as possible, and which I address to you because you expressed concern at my abrupt and most unjust removal. On the afternoon of the 1st instant my division occupied the extreme left of the main line, neither Smith nor Wright connecting with me. General Warren ordered a strong line of skirmishers to be extended from my left some one-third or one-half mile. This was done. Afterward he ordered that these skirmishers, together with those in my front, should feel the enemy by advancing the left, turning on the right as a pivot. Some delay took place in effecting this. To hasten this, and to be able to report its successful execution, I went in person at 4 p. m. toward the left of this extended line of skirmishers. During my absence an order

came from General Warren to my flag, in these words, which I beg of you to note as having an important bearing on this unfortunate issue, unfortunate at least, to me

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 1, 1864—5 p. m.

Brigadier-General LOCKWOOD,
Commanding Second Division:

Wright is engaging the enemy on your left up the Cold Harbor road. Advance your entire command along this road, and take part in the action if opportunity offers. A division will support you.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

I arrived at my flag at 6 p. m., when this note was handed to me by one of my aides-de-camp, who remarked that General Warren had been over in person; was very impatient and very angry, and had used some harsh language respecting me. I immediately mounted my horse, led my reserve up to the main line, put the whole in motion by the left flank, sending one brigade, which was bent somewhat to the rear, by a nearer route to join me up the road a half mile distant, the road here running nearly parallel to the line, distant 200 yards. I led the rest of the division up, and as I interpreted it, "along" the Cold Harbor road, at great peril to myself and officers, and reached the desired point in the direction of the action then raging between Wright and the enemy about sunset. The detached brigade was there before me. Here I met Major Roebling, of Warren's staff, with some 400 of my men, who had been reconnoitering the ground. He said he had an admirable position for my left beyond the road, and had already posted the 400 men and a portion of the detached brigade upon it, and would advise my filling out the line by another brigade, leaving one brigade in the road, whose left would reach to the left of my former position. I acceded to this and posted my men accordingly, by directing them to keep quiet and intrench. Feeling sure that the enemy had not observed us or our change of position, skirmishers were thrown out and a double line sent to occupy or cover our former position.

Supperless and blanketless I laid down on the ground at the angle made by those in the field with those in the road and passed the night. The contest with Wright had now well nigh ceased, the firing being confined to pickets apparently beyond my left. Rising at daybreak I found my line well covered, and myself saluted by a shower of balls from sharpshooters in a thicket near my front. These my skirmishers soon dispersed, gaining possession of the thicket. Regarding my position a good one and safe, my left secured by the issue of Wright's contest, as well as by a swamp near it on which it rested, and which I had covered by a double line of skirmishers, connecting my right with Cutler's left, I retired to a small house 200 yards up the road and raised my flag. Soon after this Major Roebling again came up and agreed with me as to the advantages of my position, claiming for himself the merit of selecting it. I remarked that I was sorry to inform him that General Warren differed from us as to its merits; that one of my staff missing me passed a portion of the night at General Warren's headquarters; that the general denounced the movement as not contemplated by his orders, declared we would be captured or cut to pieces and bring on a general engagement; and further, that he had made use of very harsh and damning language respecting me personally.

I said further to the major that this must cease as I would not permit General Warren or any other general to abuse me in the presence of my staff. The major replied that if I had anything to say of General Warren I should say it to General Warren himself. I replied that I certainly would call on General Warren and say as much or more to him. The major then left, and I presume returned to corps headquarters. One hour later I received an order relieving me from the command with orders to report to General Grant, and later in the day an order from General Grant, directing me to proceed to Baltimore, there await further orders, and report to the Adjutant-General U. S. Army. Now, general, what I have related is the sum and substance of this difficulty, and the facts herein given can be sworn to by a multitude of witnesses. The order was seen and read by Colonel Bates, commanding brigade, and by some of my own and Warren's staff. We all agreed that by the words "move along the Cold Harbor road and take part in the action" was intended that we should move up that road toward the point where Wright was engaged.

Had I done otherwise I would have laid myself open to the imputation of fearing to meet the enemy with my 5,000 men and as many more at my [command] to support them. Knowing that General Warren had a spare force near him, I took it for granted that he would look out for that unlucky gap. But to avoid all difficulty I took the precaution of covering it with a double line of skirmishers advantageously posted, and connecting my right with Cutler's left. I innocently believed that I was faithfully carrying out Warren's orders, had successfully flanked a battery, would be commended by my chief and perhaps get another star. But alas, how foolish are the imaginations of man; how vain his expectations. I declare I never was more astonished than when I heard from an officer, who had passed part of the night at corps headquarters, that General Warren disapproved the proceedings, and meant, when he wrote I should "move along the road," that I should move up the road, remaining parallel to and abreast of my former position.

Of course this removal damages me in public opinion, and its effects on my future career are irreparable, as no other corps commander will care to have a division commander sent to him, whom so skillful and able a corps commander as Major-General Warren had rejected for exceeding his orders, endangering his own men, and almost bringing on a general engagement without orders. I see no remedy. The public press is closed to me both by general orders and by my own sense of propriety. As a good patriot I must suffer, but I am desirous that you, General Meade, Major Michler, and some others whom I have regarded as my friends, ready to hear reason, should know the truth and be thereby enabled to form a just appreciation of this case.

I have the honor to be, general, very truly, and respectfully, your obedient and obliging servant,

HENRY H. LOCKWOOD,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *June* 10, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Issue an order to Major-Generals Hancock and Wright directing the latter to relieve such portions of General Gibbon's command as

he has available troops for the purpose and directing these officers (Generals Hancock and Wright) to confer and arrange the details of the movement, which will take place to-night as soon after dark as practicable.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 158. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *June* 10, 1864.

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2. Until further orders four days' rations will be kept on the persons of the men and six days' subsistence in the supply trains. Wagons appropriated to subsistence, not required to keep up these supplies, will be used in bringing forward from the depot for issue to the troops the small rations, not included in the marching rations, and anti-scorbutics. Any other wagons that the quartermaster's department can provide for the purpose will also be used in bringing up these additional stores.

* * * * * * *

4. In anticipation of his appointment as colonel of the regiment, First Lieut. R. S. Mackenzie, Engineers, will at once assume command of the Second Regiment Connecticut Heavy Artillery.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864—12.35 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Major-General Wright, commanding Sixth Corps, has been directed to relieve such portions of General Gibbon's command as he has troops available for the purpose. The commanding general directs that you confer with Major-General Wright and arrange the details of the movement, which will take place to-night as soon after dark as practicable. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 10, 1864—12.40 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch received.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 10, 1864—8.10 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I saw General Gibbon this evening, and have arranged satisfactorily with him, I believe, in regard to the relief of a part of his division. I send about 3,000 men to take position in his lines. I am sorry to hear you are an invalid this evening.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding Sixth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 10, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you open the road from Livesay's house by Mrs. McGee's to Wicker's, as indicated in inclosed sketch,* so that it will be practicable for a column. An examination of the road this morning shows that it is practicable for artillery and infantry if widened a little and cleared of undergrowth. A party of 125 or 150 axmen will be able to open it in three or four hours. If the sketch is not sufficiently plain, Mr. Livesay can give the officer in charge of the party the necessary information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 151. HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 10, 1864.

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III. The First Battalion Minnesota Volunteers, having reported at these headquarters, is assigned to the Second Division, and will be reported accordingly.

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By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that to-morrow, the 11th instant, you move the two divisions of your corps, now held in reserve near Leary's, to Moody's (on the New Kent Court-House and Bottom's Bridge road), by way of Parsley's Mill, Prospect Church, &c., so as to avoid the observation of the enemy. In addition to the eight wooden pontoons you will take with you eight canvas pontoons. You will be prepared to move your whole corps on Sunday evening, the 12th instant, as soon as it is dark, to Long Bridge, by way of Emmaus Church, cross the Chickahominy, march

* Not found.

to the vicinity of White Oak Swamp crossing, and hold that crossing and the Long Bridge road, looking toward the Charles City, Central, and New Market roads. It is important that the point designated should be reached at the earliest practicable moment after the movement begins. The engineers will establish as many bridges at Jones' Bridge as the locality admits of. The order for the movement of the army will be sent you in due time. So much of this communication as relates to the movement on Sunday will be considered confidential.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 139. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *June* 10, 1864.

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8. General Ayres' division will set out to-morrow at 4 a. m., by way of Parsley's Mill and Prospect Church, to Moody's (on the New Kent and Bottom's Bridge road), and camp there. General Crawford will follow General Ayres; then the reserve artillery; then the pontoon trains; then the ambulance trains, and then Lieutenant Houden's train.

In camp every effort must be made to keep the men with their commands and trains, and a strong picket guard will be thrown around the whole for this purpose. The camps will also be as close and compact as possible. No unnecessary fires will be allowed, and great care must be taken to keep the woods from taking fire, and to extinguish it if it does break out. Headquarters of the corps will be at Moody's house.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The head of the column will pass by these headquarters, and the guide will be furnished from here.

JUNE 10, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General WRIGHT:

The commanding general directs that you relieve such portions of General Gibbon's command, Second Corps, as you have troops available for the purpose, and that you confer with Major-General Hancock and arrange the details of the movement, which will take place to-night as soon after dark as possible. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SIXTH CORPS,
June 10, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Received dispatch in regard to relieving General Gibbon's division 1.10 p. m.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 10, 1864—6 p. m.

As soon as it is dark Brigadier-General Neill, with the disposable troops of his division, will occupy the present lines of the Third Division in connection with his own, and on being relieved, Brigadier-General Ricketts will proceed with his division, and take post on the left of Brigadier-General Russell, taking up so much of the present line of the Second Corps as he can occupy with two lines of battle. Brigadier-General Ricketts will send a staff officer, with an officer from these headquarters, to ascertain the position to be taken up by his troops, and he will exercise great caution in relieving the Second Corps, waiting probably till after the moon has set. In taking positions, General Ricketts will so arrange it with General Russell as to be able to relieve the three regiments of the Second Division now serving with the First Division.

By command of Major-General Wright:

C. H. WHITTELSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 10, 1864—1.30 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

We have some guns in position that will be unmasked by daybreak. They have orders to open on a battery at that time, but I have just thought that under existing orders I had better ask you if it is desirable to open. The rebel battery has been silent for several hours.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864—2.15 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE

The commanding general sees no objection to your opening on the battery you refer to.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 10, 1864. (Received 8.35 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

There appears to be no material change in our front this morning. The enemy's sharpshooters seem to be very active, and reports have come in of the sound of large wagon trains or artillery passing to our right during the night.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

A battalion of the Thirty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteers, numbering about 280 men, have reported here and been assigned to your corps. The battalion consists of four companies and is commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Pier. The commanding general directs me to inquire whether this accession will enable you to spare the small regular infantry force you have with you.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 10, 1864—11.45 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your dispatch in reference to the Wisconsin regiment received. When I spoke to General Meade yesterday about transferring the regulars of our corps to General Ayres' division, I was under the impression that they desired to join that division. These regiments learned yesterday that such movements were in contemplation, and last evening sent to me a unanimous request from their officers to remain with the Ninth Corps. Whilst I am not in the habit of regarding such petitions, I hope that in this case it may be regarded, and that both regiments, which number less than 300 both together, may be allowed to remain with the corps.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864—8 p. m.

General BURNSIDE:

The commanding general has decided to transfer the battalions of the Eighth and Tenth Regiments, regular infantry, now with you, to the Fifth Corps for assignment to the regular brigade.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 10, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The division officer of the day reports that a force of the enemy's cavalry attacked our cavalry picket on our extreme right, near the Allen house this afternoon, capturing nearly a whole company. Should anything more definite than this report come in, it will be forwarded at once.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I am instructed to inform you that the two divisions of Major-General Warren, now held in reserve near Leary's, will be withdrawn from the right flank of the army to-morrow. If there is any point held by his troops necessary to the security of your flank, the commanding general directs that you occupy it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

General Wilson has reported his picket-line being attacked this p. m., but he says the attack was repulsed and his line re-established. He does not report the loss of any men. General Wilson is directed to make a reconnaissance in force to-morrow morning, and Ferrero has been ordered to support him with a brigade of his command.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
June 10, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: All quiet through the night. Trees were cut down on the left of Redoubt Fletcher to widen the artillery range toward the battery in front of the Eighteenth Corps. The enemy's sharpshooters annoy us some. A soldier of the Twenty-seventh Michigan was killed just in rear of the main line of that regiment while my messenger was present this morning.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
June 10, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE.
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The enemy's artillery has been firing slowly at Redoubt Fletcher with no effect. Roemer replies occasionally. Otherwise all quiet along my lines.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
June 10, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: General Hartranft has advanced his skirmishers 20 paces to correspond with his new line. The connection between my two brigades in front of Redoubt Fletcher is completed. All quiet on my front.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. FERRERO,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am instructed to inform you that the general supply trains have been ordered to move to-morrow morning to the vicinity of Tunstall's Station. The commanding general directs, however, that you await with your command further orders in the position you now occupy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you send a brigade of your troops to support General Wilson, commanding cavalry division, who is ordered to make a reconnaissance in force early to-morrow morning and ascertain what force of the enemy is in his front. You will communicate at once with him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Woodlawn, Va., June 10, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

The First Division advanced to-night as far as Buck Childs' house. Some time during the night General Torbert will break the railroad at Trevilian Station, and also at Cuffy's Creek and South Fork Creek, on the road from Gordonsville to Charlottesville. At 5 o'clock in the morning General Torbert will march on Gordonsville, via Trevilian, Newark, and Mechanicsburg, on the old stage road. Your division will move promptly at 5 a. m. on the same road that General Torbert's command moves on. The subsistence and pontoon train will move with one of your brigades in front and another in rear. Your not having the advance to-morrow, and from the dif-

ficulties you will have to encounter in reaching the point where General Torbert's command is encamped, I thought it best to put you in camp here.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 10, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

At 1 p. m. the enemy's cavalry, perhaps a regiment strong, made a dash at my pickets, near the junction of the Shady Grove and Richmond roads, driving them in toward Linney's. They were, however, repulsed at the end, and the line at present is again reestablished as it has been.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

From a prisoner I learn that Gregg's brigade of infantry are picketing in our front. A prisoner from the Fourth Texas Infantry says the regiment which dashed in was the Ninth Virginia, of Wickham's brigade.

J. H. W.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILSON,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you make a reconnaissance in force early to-morrow morning and ascertain what force of the enemy is in your front. General Ferrero is ordered to send a brigade of his command to support you. General Ferrero is directed to communicate at once with you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
June 10, 1864.

Capt. L. SIEBERT,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report no serious disturbance along my line. The enemy occasionally fire on my pickets, and yesterday fired upon a small party sent to reconnoiter Turner's Crossing, killing or wounding Second Lieut. William H. Conover, Twenty-second New York Cavalry. The men who were with him fled, and a second party sent to ascertain the facts found the body gone. I presume he was wounded. The First New Hampshire Cavalry reported yesterday. The ambulance train of this brigade should be increased. I am waiting to know where to send the pack-mules of the command ordered to be turned in.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. H. CHAPMAN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
In the Field, June 10, 1864.

Capt. L. SIEBERT,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: In answer to inquiries made by General Humphreys I have the honor to state that Turner's Crossing is about half a mile below Fisher's Ford, which last point is known, I think, to the engineers at army headquarters, and is from 1¼ miles to 1½ miles below Bottom's Bridge. There was formerly a bridge at Turner's, but whether the river is fordable at that point or not I am not advised. The approach to the river at Turner's passes near an old abandoned house (the first on the river below Fisher's), and is good. The only crossings on the river between Bottom's Bridge and Long Bridge known to me are Fisher's and Turner's. I have not ascertained that there are any crossings between Long Bridge and Jones' Bridge except the ford a short distance above the last-named point, which is laid down on the map furnished from headquarters.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. H. CHAPMAN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

I might mention that at Fisher's Ford a very light belt of timber skirts the river.

WHITE HOUSE, VA., *June* 10, 1864—11 p. m.
(Received 9 a. m. 11th.)

General D. H. RUCKER, *Chief Quartermaster:*

To enable me to comply with orders just received from General Ingalls, chief quartermaster, Army of the Potomac, I shall require at once five steamers and five tugs in addition to those now here. The vessels arriving here to-day and those to arrive to-morrow, having on board infantry recruits for the army, are not unloaded but are sent to Bermuda Hundred to debark their troops. I telegraphed to you to-day asking that 3,000,000 [pounds] of grain be loaded in barges and sent to me. Please have the captains of the vessels towing them ordered to proceed to Fort Monroe with their tows, and await orders from me. Please reply.

P. P. PITKIN,
Captain and Quartermaster.

WHITE HOUSE, VA., *June* 10, 1864.
(Received 2.40 a. m. 11th.)

Capt. E. S. ALLEN,
Assistant Quartermaster, Washington, D. C.:

Steamers Ocean Wave and Diamond State were ordered from this place to Bermuda Hundred, carrying the troops which they brought from Washington. No more troops will be debarked at this place. Transportation is required from this place to Bermuda Hundred for 3,000 troops now here. We also have 2,500 wounded yet to be removed. Please send me the necessary transportation, if possible. Steamer S. R. Spaulding will leave this place this p. m. with 1,000 prisoners of war for Point Lookout.

P. P. PITKIN,
Captain, Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
June 10, 1864.

Major-General AUGUR:

No more troops will be sent to White House. All re-enforcements and others for Army of the Potomac will be sent to Bermuda Hundred.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Brigadier-General Rucker.)

List of troops sent to front, &c., from headquarters U. S. Forces, Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie, commanding.

FROM BELLE PLAIN AND PORT ROYAL.

Arrived.		Arm.	Force.	When.	Where.
	Colonel Fox, detachments	Infantry	550	May —	Army Potomac.
	Colonel Glenn, 23d Pennsylvania Volunteers.	do	535	May 20	Do.
	Colonel Bassett, 82d Pennsylvania Volunteers.	do	504	do	Do.
	Captain Caw, detachments	do	350	May 19	Fredericksburg.
	Colonel Staunton, 67th Pennsylvania Volunteers.	do	240	May 20	Do.
	Colonel Raymond, 2d New York Mounted Rifles.	do	1,006	May 17	Army Potomac.
	——— ———, 1st Vermont Heavy Artillery (11th Vermont Infantry).	Infantry and artillery.	1,500		Do.
	Lieutenant-Colonel Parnell	Dism'ted cavalry.	1,500		Do.
	Captain Leslie, provost guard, with prisoners.	Infantry	500		Do.
	Colonel McCoy, 107th Pennsylvania Volunteers.	do	220		Do.
	Col. M. Murphy, 69th New York, four battalions.	do	1,700		Do.
	——— ———, detachment cavalry	Cavalry	232		Do.
	——— ———, detachment cavalry	do	47		Do.
	Brigadier-General Tyler:				
	1st Maine Artillery	Artillery	1,699		Do.
	7th New York Artillery	do	1,670		Do.
	1st Massachusetts Artillery	do	1,605		Do.
	2d New York Artillery	do	1,725		Do.
	36th Wisconsin Volunteers	do	900		Do.
	8th New York Artillery	do	1,500	May 18	Do.
	Lieutenant-Colonel Pope, detachments	Cavalry	650		Do.
	Colonel Dushane, 1st Maryland Volunteers.	Infantry	500		Do.
	Major McIrvin	Cavalry	279	May 18	Do.
	Colonel Kellogg, 2d Connecticut Artillery	Artillery	1,850	do	Do.
	Capt. S. Conner, 8th New York Heavy Artillery.	do	100	May 19	Do.
	Col. J. Welling, 9th New York Heavy Artillery.	do	1,900	May 21	Do.
	Colonel Wentworth, detachment 31st and 32d Maine.	Infantry	328	do	Do.
	——— ———, detachment cavalry (dismounted).		150	May 22	Fredericksburg.
	Colonel Talley	Infantry	600	do	Army Potomac.
	Col. L. Crandell, Fifth Provisional Battalion.	do	684		Do.
	Lieutenant-Colonel Howard, 2d Maryland Volunteers.	do	160	May 21	Do.
	Captain Pease	do	1,019		Do.
	Capt. C. Woerner, 3d New Jersey Battery	Artillery			
	Lieutenant-Colonel Parnell, detachments of cavalry.	Cavalry and artillery.	1,662		Do.
	Maj. W. E. Beardsley	Cavalry	188		Do.
	Colonel Clendenin, 8th Illinois Cavalry	do	440		Washington.
	Col. C. F. Johnson, Veteran Reserve Battalion.	Infantry			
	Colonel Cesnola, 4th New York Cavalry	Cavalry	200		Fredericksburg.

List of troops sent to front, &c.—Continued.

FROM BELLE PLAIN AND PORT ROYAL—Continued.

Arrived.		Arm.	Force.	When.	Where.
	Captain Edwards, five batteries Reserve Artillery.	.....	.....	.....	Army Potomac.
	Lieut. Col. E. H. C. Cavins	.....	1,200	.....	Do.
	Lieut. Col. J. F. Ramsey, 187th Pennsylvania Volunteers.	.....	800	.....	Do.
	Colonel Gibson, 2d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (112th Volunteers).	.....	1,800	.....	Do.
	.....	.....	78	.....	Do.
	Caw's detachment	.....	400	.....	Do.
	Eaton's battery	.....	130	.....	Do.
	Captain Watkins' dismounted cavalry	.....	144	.....	Do.
	Colonel Gregory	.....	1,400	.....	Do.
	Sent from Belle Plain and Port Royal.	.....	34,645		

FROM WHITE HOUSE.

June	2	General Ames' command	Infantry and cavalry.	2,334	June 3	Army Potomac.
	2	Capt. John Rogers' detachment 1st Rhode Island Cavalry.	Cavalry	80	...do	Do.
	3	Captain Arnold, 5th U. S. Cavalry	....do	120	...do	Do.
	3	Recruits for 8th Ohio	Infantry	90	...do	Do.
	3	Capt. J. W. Martin, 6th Independent New York Battery.	Artillery	95	...do	Washington.
	3	Lieutenant King, Company A, 4th U. S. Artillery.	....do	120	...do	Do.
	4	Captain Cormack, provost guard	Cavalry	12	June 4	Army Potomac.
	2	Capt. W. H. Cameron, 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry.	...do	166	June 5	Do.
	4	Colonel Fraser, Provisional Battalion	Infantry	850	June 5,6	Do.
	2	Captain Ellenbeck, 22d New York Cavalry.	Cavalry	60	June 6	Do.
	4	Captain Wright, 31st U. S. Colored Troops.	Infantry	188	June 7	Do.
	2	Lieut. Col. J. A. Bross, colored troops	....do	380	...do	Do.
	7	Lieut. Col. R. L. Bodine, Provisional Battalion.	....do	1,140	June 7,8	Do.
	13	Lieut. Col. B. T. Hutchins, 1st New Hampshire Cavalry.	Cavalry	203	June 8	Do.
	8	Captain Wales, 17th U. S. Infantry	Infantry	64	...do	Do.
	3	———, 38th Wisconsin and 1st Minnesota.	....do	221	June 9	Do.
	8	Colonel Cooper, 142d Ohio National Guard.	....do	750	June 11	Bermuda Hundred.
	2	Col. Joel Haines, 132d Ohio National Guard.	....do	762	...do	Do.
	2	Lieutenant-Colonel Martin, 58th Pennsylvania Volunteers.	....do	200	June 4	Army Potomac.
	2	Col. A. O. Doolittle, 37th Wisconsin Volunteers.	... do	392	June 10	Do.
	3	Lieutenant-Colonel Doty, 179th New York Volunteers (detachment).	....do	300	...do	Do.
	10	Col. H. Miller, 163d Ohio National Guard	....do	800	...do	Bermuda Hundred.
	10	Colonel Moore, 148th Ohio National Guard.	....do	720	...do	Do.
	11	Colonel Vodrey, 143d Ohio National Guard.	....do	740	June 11	Do.
	10	Lieutenant-Colonel Neeper, Provisional Battalion.	....do	554	...do	Army Potomac.
	10	Lieutenant Collins, 14th United States (detachment).	....do	60	...do	Do.
	9	Colonel Armstrong, 134th Ohio National Guard.	....do	780	...do	Bermuda Hundred.

JUNE 10, 1864.

JUNE 10, 1864.

Col. W. HOFFMAN,

Commissary-General of Prisoners, Washington, D. C.:

COLONEL: I have delayed the removal of the colored regiment until wells could be dug, with a view to ascertaining whether the supply of water would be sufficient. I have found water in the only remaining spot suitable for a camp, but the water we

have thus far obtained is hardly fit to drink. The great increase in the number of prisoners and the increase in the garrison have so lowered the wells that Captain Hawes, senior officer of the Potomac Flotilla at this station, to-day requested me to run a boat daily to Baltimore for the purpose of supplying his vessel with water.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel, Commanding District.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 10, 1864. (Received 9.20 a. m. 11th.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

All quiet along our lines. Yesterday General Kautz charged enemy's works at Petersburg, and carried them, penetrating the town, but not being supported by General Gillmore, who had withdrawn his forces without a conflict, General Kautz was obliged to withdraw without further effect. General Kautz captured 40 prisoners and 1 piece of artillery, which he brought away with him. It is a misfortune that General Gillmore did not support him. Might I not have the Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Regiment from Point Lookout? Three regiments ought to hold the prisoners there.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 10, 1864.

Officer in charge of pontoons
belonging to Army of the Potomac, at Bermuda Landing:

SIR: You will proceed at once with your command and pontoon trains to Fort Monroe and there report to General Benham.

By order of General Butler:

C. J. PAINE,
Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA,
ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
June 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Chief Engineer, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I have, according to your request, this day turned over to Captain Robbins part of pontoon bridge trains Nos. 7 and 11, which were invoiced to me from Washington, subject to the order of Lieutenant-General Grant.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General and Chief Engineer.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 10, 1864.

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
First Connecticut Artillery, Bermuda Hundred:

COLONEL: I wrote you some days since in answer to your letter from your present position. I meant to have spoken to you about mantlets for the guns, although you have doubtless thought of them. We had them at Yorktown, as you doubtless remember, and they must be still available. If I mistake not, the rope ones were made under the direction of General Delafield. Whether they, or the iron ones, would be best, I am not prepared to say. The iron ones would doubtless be liable to splinters if struck by cannon-shot. It may be that the mantlets are at Old Point. At any rate, if you did not include them in your outfit, it would be well to write to General Delafield about them; or if any are to be made, he can best direct where to get the work done. I hope, too, you will get a good supply of your mortar shrapnel. I like the idea exceedingly. If we had had them with us on this campaign they would have been of infinite service.

We have a great deal of foot artillery with us, enough to have abundance of men, and all are anxious for employment with their own arm. I understand that Lieutenant Mackenzie, of the Engineers, is to have command of the Second Connecticut as colonel, vice Kellogg, which will be a good thing. I desire to have that regiment associated with yours in the service of the siege train; and as much more force as may be needed can be drawn from the other foot regiments, I presume, for the labor of the trenches, for the fabrication of gabions, fascines, &c. Proper tools for this should be provided. I am a little uneasy about the breaking up of the Artillery Reserve. The artillery teams, and the wagons and teams of the ammunition trains, would have furnished precious resources for the movement of the material we must draw heavily on the quartermaster's department.

Very truly, yours,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

COBB'S HILL SIGNAL STATION,
June 10, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

The battery that is firing upon us appears to be about 1½ miles due west. I think they have but one gun, a 12-pounder, possibly two. Our batteries and gun-boats reply.

CRAFT,
Lieutenant, Signal Officer.

SPRING HILL SIGNAL STATION,
June 10, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Captain NORTON:

Three regiments of enemy's infantry are seen going from the woods this side and to the right of railroad junction, toward our left works.

BAIRD,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

GILLMORE'S, *June* 10, 1864.

General BUTLER:

A column of the enemy's infantry and a long wagon train are reported by the signal officer as passing to the north across Chaffin's farm.

GILLMORE,
General.

GILLMORE'S, *June* 10, 1864.

General BUTLER:

There was only about one regiment and a battery of six pieces with caissons.

GILLMORE,
General.

GILLMORE'S,
June 10, 1864. (Received 2.10 p. m.)

Colonel PAINE, *Acting Chief of Staff:*

I have received your telegram of 1.20 p. m., directing report of movement yesterday.*

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 75. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., *Fort Monroe, Va., June* 10, 1864.

William P. Webster is hereby announced as volunteer aide-de-camp in this department, with the rank of major, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. Maj. W. P. Webster is hereby detailed for special duty, being to act as provost judge at Norfolk.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 43. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In Field, near Hatcher's, Va., June* 10, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The senior officer of artillery serving in each of the six batteries on the line of intrenchments will be in command of all the artillery force stationed in his battery.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Capt., 47th New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., June 10, 1864.

Col. G. B. DANDY,
General Officer of the Day:

COLONEL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date, and

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* See Part II, p. 273

to state in reply that the old line of rifle-pits will be held until night, but will be filled up as soon as it is sufficiently dark to do so without danger of discovery by the enemy. The line of the vedettes will not, however, be changed, as it is advisable that the enemy should not suspect the change in the picket-line. Please report by the bearer whether a fatigue party will be needed to fill up the old pits, and, if so, what number will be needed and at what hour. The new picket-line will not be occupied until the old rifle-pits are filled.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 10, 1864.

Col. J. B. HOWELL,
Commanding First Brigade :

COLONEL : I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to state that he is too unwell this morning to continue upon duty, and that he desires that you will assume command of the division at once.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 10, 1864.
(Received 9 a. m.)

General HINKS :

I wish to see you. Come over and bring any prisoners you may have along.

BUTLER,
General.

BERMUDA, *June* 10, 1864.

General BUTLER :

The rebel cavalry made a small demonstration just above Haxall's. The gun-boats at Turkey Bend are firing at them.

FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division, &c. :

GENERAL : I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that Colonel Spear was ordered last night to send the prisoners to these headquarters, which was not done. He directs that you now send the prisoners as soon as possible to these headquarters, and make your report to these headquarters direct.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. J. PAINE,
Colonel and Acting Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. SECOND CAV. BRIG., KAUTZ'S DIV. OF CAV.,
In the Field, June 10, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: In accordance with orders received from Major-General Butler last evening, through Colonel Shaffer, I have the honor to submit the following statement, viz: On the evening of the 9th instant as the cavalry command was returning to camp, and when the head of the column was on this side of the pontoon bridge, after crossing the Appomattox, Captain Clarke, an aide-de-camp to General Butler, came to me and said, "Who commands this column?" I answered, "Colonel Spear." Captain Clarke replied, "General Butler directs that all the prisoners captured to-day be sent to his headquarters at once, to be there delivered to an officer of the guard waiting to receive them."

General Kautz having left the column, and I being the senior officer present, at once, and in the presence of Captain Clarke, sent Lieutenant Cameron, my aide, to Lieut. Col. George Stetzel, commanding Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, and to Major Kleinz, commanding Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, with an order exactly repeating General Butler's order. At this time Lieutenant-Colonel Stetzel and Major Kleinz were in my rear, and all the prisoners were in either the Eleventh or the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry column.

In order that there should be no mistake, I sent, while Lieutenant Cameron was executing his orders, a trusty orderly, Private Conrad Reese, to Major Wetherill, who was at his quarters, informing him of the orders I had received. My aide, Lieutenant Cameron, also went to Major Wetherill, and said, "Major, Colonel Spear has received instructions from Major-General Butler to have all the prisoners turned over to-night." (See Lieutenant Cameron's report, second page.)

Lieutenant Cameron also reported the fact to Captain Asch, acting assistant adjutant-general to General Kautz (see Lieutenant Cameron's report). Major Wetherill was provost-marshal, and Lieutenant Bayard his assistant, both under direct orders to General Kautz. I could not order them but could only inform them of my instructions, also Captain Asch, as appears I did by Lieutenant Cameron's report. I most positively supposed the order was obeyed, and was greatly surprised on the morning of the 10th instant to find it was not. I have always carried out the orders of my superiors to the letter, and enforced the same upon all juniors, as the maintenance of discipline in all commands depends strictly and mainly upon this course.

I inclose reports* of Lieut. Col. George Stetzel, Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry; Maj. C. Kleinz, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry; Lieut. J. Frank Cameron, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, aide-de-camp; Capt. H. C. Clarke, aide-de-camp; Lieut. W. T. Carnace, Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry; Lieut. W. E. A. Bird, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

I am, sir, with high respect, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL P. SPEAR,
Col. 11th Pa. Cav., Comdg. 2d Brig., Kautz's Div. of Cav.

* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., June 10, 1864.

Col. J. C. VAN HOOK, or
OFFICER COMMANDING CONFEDERATE FORCES,
Little Washington, N. C.:

SIR: Your communication of the 3d instant was duly received, and agreeably to your suggestion I shall send a steamer to-morrow for the purpose of bringing away such persons as may desire to take advantage of my offer of relief. I do not propose to enter into any discussion concerning the burning of Washington. I will simply say that I am in no way responsible for it; that I regret it more than you can, and that I yet hope to detect the villains who were concerned in it. If you have conversed with any of the citizens concerning that affair I suspect you will find their testimony to be that the officers did their best to extinguish the flames or to prevent their spreading. The people of North Carolina who know me know very well that no act of vandalism or inhumanity has ever been sanctioned by me, and looking at this matter in a military, aside from a humane, aspect, I could not think of destroying a town or field-works that I might find it necessary to reoccupy at a future day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 11, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Colonel Comstock, who visited the James River for the purpose of ascertaining the best point below Bermuda Hundred to which to march the army, has not yet returned. It is now getting so late, however, that all preparations may be made for the move to-morrow night without waiting longer. The movement will be made as heretofore agreed upon—that is, the Eighteenth Corps make a rapid march with the infantry alone, their wagons and artillery accompanying the balance of the army to Cole's Landing or Ferry, and there embark for City Point, losing no time for rest until they reach the latter point. The Fifth Corps will seize Long Bridge and move out on the Long Bridge road to its junction with Quaker road, or until stopped by the enemy. The other three corps will follow in such order as you may direct, one of them crossing at Long Bridge, and two at Jones' Bridge. After the crossing is effected the most practicable roads will be taken to reach about Fort Powhatan. Of course this is supposing the enemy makes no opposition to our advance. The Fifth Corps, after securing the passage of the balance of the army, will join or follow in rear of the corps which crosses the same bridge with themselves. The wagon trains should be kept well east of the troops, and if a crossing can be found or made lower down than Jones' they should take it.

Very respectfully,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—In view of the long march to reach Cole's Landing, and the uncertainty of being able to embark so large a number of men there,

the direction of the Eighteenth Corps may be changed to White House. They should be directed to load up transports and start them as fast as loaded without waiting for the whole corps, or even whole divisions, to go together.

U. S. G.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 11, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: I send to you Mr. Van Lew from Richmond, who claims to be a refugee. He came into our lines to-day, and was sent to these headquarters by General Wilson. He desires to see Lieutenant-General Grant, or make known his wishes to him, and, by direction of General Meade, I send him to you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

SIGNAL STATION,
Near Saint James' Church, June 11, 1864.

Capt. B. F. FISHER:

I have the honor to make the following report of observations from this station: 6 a. m., large quantities of smoke, as if from camp-fires, seen rising in the woods in direction due west from station, near Fair Oaks. At a point, supposed to be on Nine-Mile road, near Fair Oaks, due west from station, a heavy dust rising from 11 a. m. to 12 m., seemed to indicate the passage of a large column of troops. As near as could be judged, the column was infantry, passing southward. At the same point wagons and small parties of cavalry and infantry were seen moving in different directions all day. Small squads of cavalry were also seen passing at other points in different directions during the day.

Respectfully submitted.

J. B. DUFF,
Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
June 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following memorandum is forwarded of the information brought by Mitchell, of the Twenty-second North Carolina; communicated last night: He says that up to Wednesday night of this week Anderson's division, of A. P. Hill's corps, was lying in reserve in the rear of Breckinridge's division, which was to the left of Wilcox's (his own) division; that on Wednesday night Anderson relieved Breckinridge, and the next day (Thursday) it was found that Breckinridge had not occupied the former position of Anderson, but it was well understood that he had gone to the Valley.

Previous to this news had been received of the capture of Staunton and a considerable number of prisoners by our forces, and it was also rumored within the rebel lines that some of our forces were advancing this way and had got as far as Orange Court-House. It was added that subsequent to the capture of Staunton some successes had been achieved by the Confederates in the capture of a large wagon train, reported 300 in number, at a point which was only indistinctly stated as being above Gordonsville.

On Thursday pease and onions were issued to Scales' brigade, potatoes to McGowan's brigade, and curried cabbage to Thomas' brigade, all of Wilcox's division. The amounts were ample, and the issues were understood to have been the result of the capture. Mitchell states that it is well known that we are not using the railroad to the White House, and that on Wednesday evening, lying near General Scales, who was talking with other officers, he heard him say that we were not preparing to use it. He says that a large number of scouts are employed to continually approach and reconnoiter our lines in front, as it is their momentary expectation to find our lines withdrawn for the purpose of being passed to the left to the James River. For this, it is claimed, full preparation has been made, and it is given out in the rebel army that a portion of General Beauregard's forces have occupied and intrenched Malvern Hill, and that their lines are sufficiently prolonged to connect with Malvern Hill from their present position in our front. Wilcox's division lies in front of General Birney's division of the Second Army Corps.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel and Deputy Provost-Marshal-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 11, 1864.

The following movements are ordered:

1. At dark on the evening of the 12th instant Brigadier-General Wilson will move the brigade of cavalry picketing the Chickahominy across that swamp at Long Bridge, or that vicinity, and out on the Long Bridge road toward the crossing of White Oak Swamp and toward the Charles City, Central, and New Market roads. The brigade will move promptly and clear the road for the Fifth Corps. The pickets at the crossings of the Chickahominy will remain until relieved by infantry pickets.

2. During Saturday, the 11th instant, Major-General Warren will move the two divisions of his corps, now held in reserve, to Moody's by way of Parsley's Mill, Prospect Church, &c., so as to avoid the observation of the enemy. At dark on the evening of the 12th instant he will move his whole corps to Long Bridge by the shortest route, cross the Chickahominy, and move on the road to White Oak Swamp bridge (called Long Bridge road) and hold that road, looking toward the crossings of White Oak Swamp and the Charles City, Central, and New Market roads, during the passage of the army toward James River. He will follow the Second Corps toward Charles City Court-House. General Warren will picket the crossings of the Chickahominy on his flank while moving to Long Bridge, relieving the cavalry pickets.

3. Maj. Gen. W. F. Smith, Eighteenth Corps, will withdraw as soon after dark as practicable on the evening of the 12th instant, and move by way of Parsley's Mill, Prospect Church, Hopewell Church, Tunstall's Station, to White House, where he will embark and proceed to Bermuda Hundred. Upon reaching Tunstall's Station his artillery and trains will join the main trains of the army.

4. Major-General Burnside, Ninth Corps, will withdraw as soon after dark as practicable on the evening of the 12th instant, and move by way of Allen's Mill (or by roads avoiding Smith's route); then north of the south fork of the Matadequin to Burton's, thence past Hughes', Watts', Clopton's, Turner's Store, &c., to Tunstall's Station, or by any adjoining route avoiding Smith's that may be found to Tunstall's Station. At Tunstall's Station the corps of General Smith has precedence. When it has cleared the way, General Burnside will move to Jones' Bridge, taking care not to interfere with routes of other corps, past Baltimore Cross-Roads and Emmaus Church. Where the routes of the Sixth and Ninth Corps unite, about 3 miles from Jones' Bridge, the corps that reaches the point first will have precedence. After crossing at Jones' Bridge Major-General Burnside will take the route passing east of Charles City Court-House, by Vandom's [Vaiden's], Clopton's, and Tyler's Mill.

5. Major-General Wright, Sixth Corps, will withdraw as soon after dark as practicable on the evening of the 12th instant to the intrenched line in his rear, from Allen's Pond to Elder Swamp, and, in conjunction with the Second Corps, hold that line until the roads for the Sixth and Second Corps are well cleared by the Fifth Corps, when the two corps will withdraw. General Wright will move by way of Cold Harbor, Taylor's, J. P. Parsley's, Widow Via's, Goode's, and Hopkins' Mill to Moody's; and thence by way of Emmaus Church to Jones' Bridge, preceding or following the Ninth Corps, as already indicated, where the routes unite. After crossing the Chickahominy, General Wright will take the route to Charles City Court-House by Vandom's [Vaiden's].

6. Major-General Hancock, Second Corps, will withdraw as soon after dark as practicable on the evening of the 12th instant to the intrenched line in his rear from Allen's Pond to Elder Swamp, and hold that line, in conjunction with the Sixth Corps, until the roads for the Second and Sixth Corps are well cleared, when he will move by routes in his rear to the Dispatch Station road, avoiding the roads of the Sixth Corps, and by Dispatch Station and the shortest route to Long Bridge. He will look out for the crossings of the Chickahominy on his flank while passing. After crossing the Chickahominy, General Hancock will move toward Charles City Court-House, by way of Saint Mary's Church, Walker's, &c.

7. Brigadier-General Ferrero will move his division at dark on the evening of the 12th instant to the trains of the army near White House or Cumberland, and cover them during the movement.

8. The trains will move to the Windsor Shades, and cross the Chickahominy in that vicinity. They will take such routes as not to interfere with the movements of the troops.

9. The brigade of cavalry on the right will withdraw at the same time as the Sixth and Second Corps, and close in on the rear of the army and cover it and the trains during the movement.

10. Corps commanders will see that every precaution is taken to insure the rapid execution of this movement, and that the troops move promptly and quickly on the march.

11. Headquarters during the movement will be at Pollard's or Cedar Grove, near Long Bridge, and until established there will be on the route of the Sixth Corps as far as Emmaus Church.

12. Eight canvas and eight wooden pontoons will accompany the Fifth Corps to Long Bridge. The engineers will establish bridges at Jones' Bridge with the remaining eight canvas pontoons and the wooden pontoons of the Sixth Corps. The wooden pontoons of the Second Corps will accompany the main trains of the army.

13. The pickets of the several corps will be withdrawn at the same hour from the line of intrenchments before daylight of the 13th instant, and will follow the routes of their respective corps.

14. The corps will take with them on the march merely those light headquarters wagons, ammunition wagons, ambulances, &c., specified for the march across the Rapidan. All others will be sent at once to the main trains of the army.

15. The depot at White House will be continued for the present with its permanent garrison, but all supplies, &c., for this army will be moved to the James River, leaving 50,000 rations of subsistence and 30,000 rations of forage, in addition to supplies for the garrison. On the arrival of Major-Generals Sheridan and Hunter, the post at White House will be broken up and transferred to Yorktown, from which place the commanding officer will report his arrival to these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 152. HDQRS. SECOND ARMY CORPS, *June* 11, 1864.

Col. John Fraser, One hundred and fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, will report forthwith to Brigadier-General Gibbon, commanding Second Division, for assignment to the command of a brigade.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIV., SECOND CORPS,
June 11, 1864.

Maj. JOHN HANCOCK,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor of reporting that the enemy opened this evening on my line from a Coehorn mortar, firing 6 or 8 shots. Some of the shots fell in front and some in rear of my line of battle, wounding 7 privates of the Second New York Heavy Artillery. The mortar is behind the enemy's second line of works, between a section of artillery. From a signal station in rear of Brown's battery, the men working the mortar could be plainly seen. I send by orderly a fragment of one of shot fired.

Very respectfully,

NELSON A. MILES,
Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Moody's House, June 11, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

My command is all in camp as ordered. I have had roads repaired so far and will work again to-morrow beyond here. I think the country is such that we can move the two divisions that are here so as to be at the river at dark, if necessary, without observation. I picket all around my camp to prevent my men from straying out or spies from getting through our lines as far as I am able. I have sent you some deserters to-day. Can get no information of enemy being south of White Oak Swamp, except near James River, where the bluffs are fortified. Hill's corps is supposed to be between Savage Station and the Chickahominy or thereabouts. Deserters are from Heth's division.

G. K. WARREN.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 11, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General Russell, commanding First Division, will detail 650 men; Brigadier-General Neill, commanding Second Division, will detail 700 men; Brigadier-General Ricketts, commanding Third Division, will detail 500 men, and Major Beers, commanding Engineer Battalion, will detail 150 men, with the proper number of commissioned and non-commissioned officers, to report this morning punctually at 9 o'clock to Captain Michler, U. S. Engineers, at Cold Harbor. A field officer will be placed in command of the detail from each division. Each detail will be sent, under charge of a staff officer, to Cold Harbor, where they will be received by a staff officer from these headquarters, and the senior officer placed in command of the whole. Major Beers, commanding Engineer Battalion, will send 1,400 spades, 500 picks, 100 axes to the same place at the same hour.

By command of Major-General Wright:

C. H. WHITTELSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 11, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE:

The inclosed dispatch just received from Major-General Smith is respectfully communicated to you for your information. Can't you silence the battery?

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 11, 1864—3 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

There is a battery on General Burnside's front that annoys my command very much. Can he not do something to silence it?

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 11, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE, *Comdg. Army of the Potomac:*

My attention has just been called to a letter written by Mr. Swinton, correspondent of the New York Times, and now a follower of this army. The paragraph marked with pencil in the inclosed paper* is plainly a libel upon the Ninth Corps, as well as upon myself. He speaks of some dispatches which had been received from me during the morning, which would indicate that he had learned their contents from the telegraph operator or otherwise. The official reports show a loss from two small divisions of this corps of over 1,000 men during the assault, and the divisions established themselves close upon the main line of the enemy, ready for another assault. I beg that this man immediately receive the justice which was so justly meted out to another libeller of the press a day or two since, or that I be allowed to arrest and punish him myself. This is not his first offense.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 11, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

The commanding general directs that the regular troops now with you must join the Fifth Corps to-morrow.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 11, 1864.

General SETH WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Your dispatch in reference to regular troops is received, and the troops will be sent to the Fifth Corps to-morrow morning, if you will inform me where they will find them. Please say to the commanding general that I am very sorry that he has found it necessary to take away from this corps some of its best troops upon the eve of an important movement, a portion of which forms the provost guard of the corps, which is so necessary in a march. I have now fewer men present for duty by several thousand than any other corps in the army.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 11, 1864—9.10 p. m.

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Please inform me where I shall order the regular regiments to report, and by what route to move.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 11, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The regular troops are to report to General Warren at Moody's, not far from Dispatch Station. They had better take the route via Leary's, Prospect Church, Hopkins' Mill, across the railroad to Moody's, which is on the map given you by Major Duane to-day.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., NINTH CORPS,
June 11, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General LEDLIE,
Commanding First Division:

SIR: The cavalry posted on picket on the right have sent in information to the Fifty-sixth [Massachusetts] Regiment that a line of battle is approaching them, and they expect an attack. They do not say whether cavalry or infantry. Further information will be forwarded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. GOULD,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION,
Thompson's House, June 11, 1864.

Lieutenant RICHARDS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that there is no change on my immediate front this morning. There is less firing by the enemy's picket this morning than formerly.

Yours, very respectfully,

B. C. CHRIST,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
June 11, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

All quiet on my front. General Ames reports that there were no camp fires in rear of the enemy's lines last night, as have been usual. All exterior indications show that the enemy is not in as great force as before on my front.

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near Gibson's House, June 11, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

In pursuance of your orders of last night, Colonel McIntosh, with his brigade of cavalry, supported by one brigade of colored troops,

on the picket-line, pushed out on the road to Bethesda Church and Shady Grove at 4.30 a. m., met the enemy's pickets just beyond Gilman's Mill, and drove them rapidly back upon the rebel intrenchments, compelling them to leave arms and accouterments in their flight. One prisoner from the First South Carolina Volunteers, Field's division, Longstreet's corps. Colonel McIntosh found a strong line of log intrenchments, covered with earth, fully a half mile beyond Bethesda, and behind which infantry were seen in force; our men getting close up and in full view of their tents, camps, and lines of troops, of which there were several already formed when our advance approached. The works are in an open field, about a quarter of a mile from the edge of the woods, on this side, running near the point marked "Brick-kiln," and apparently covering the roads to Cold Harbor and Mechanicsville.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General.

THIRD DIV., CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 11, 1864—8.30 a. m.

[General HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: The column toward Shady Grove pushed the enemy to their old lines beyond Bowles' house. Their pickets were light, and made but little resistance. Our loss will be 4 or 5 killed and 6 or 8 wounded. There seemed to be but a very small cavalry force, and none outside of their infantry line except the pickets. I shall avail myself of the presence of the colored troops to fortify my picket-line.

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 11, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILSON, *Comdg. Cavalry Division:*

Your dispatches of 8 and 8.30 a. m. are received. The commanding general directs that the enemy be watched during the day, and if no movements on his part take place indicating important changes, you can withdraw to your former position, sending Ferrero's brigade back to him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. THIRD CAV. DIV., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I send herewith a deserter from the Arsenal Battalion, who came across the Chickahominy this morning. He says Breckinridge went Wednesday night to Staunton with his troops. They seem to look for us to cross the Chickahominy below Bottom's Bridge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General,

POINT LOOKOUT, *June* 11, 1864.
(Received 7.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

By authority from Major-General Butler I am about to start on an expedition to the Virginia shore with a detachment of the Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, 50 cavalry from Leonardtown, and 100 sailors. I leave the prisoners perfectly secure. I have obtained three additional gun-boats, making five in all, to lie off the narrow causeway leading to the prisoners' camp. I have ten pieces of artillery in position at the stockades across the causeways. A line of infantry bivouacked beside the stockades, which are loopholed for musketry, and at which the entire garrison is to rally in case of an alarm. No transports are allowed to remain at the wharf by night.

A. G. DRAPER,
Colonel, Commanding District.

JUNE 11, 1864.

Colonel DRAPER,
Point Lookout:

I am ready for the expedition as follows: One hundred sailors to go with you from near Machodoc; one gun-boat to lie at Machodoc Cove River and Yocomico; two gun-boats up Rappahannock, three at Point Lookout. All will be ready at sunset, and meet you at Point Lookout, unless you wish to postpone for a day or so because of rainy weather, which is coming on. Captain Street brings a fine chart with him. Please answer.

T. H. EASTMAN,
Flotilla Captain.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Comdg. Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

GENERAL: The movement to transfer this army to the south side of James River will commence after dark to-morrow night. Colonel Comstock, of my staff, was sent specially to ascertain what was necessary to make your position secure in the interval, during which the enemy might use most of his force against you, and also to ascertain what point on the river we should reach to effect a crossing, if it should not be practicable to reach this side of the river at Bermuda Hundred. Colonel Comstock has not yet returned, so that I cannot make instructions as definite as I would wish, but the time between this and Sunday night being so short in which to get word to you, I must do the best I can.

Colonel Dent goes to make arrangements for gun-boats and transportation to send up the Chickahominy to take to you the Eighteenth Corps. This corps will leave its position in the trenches as early in the evening to-morrow as possible, and make a forced march to Cole's Landing or Ferry, where it should reach by 10 a. m. the following morning. This corps numbers now 15,300 men. They take with them neither wagons nor artillery, these latter marching

with the balance of the army to the James River. The remainder of the army will cross the Chickahominy at Long Bridge and at Jones' and strike the river at the most practicable crossing below City Point. I directed several days ago that all re-enforcements for the army should be sent to you. I am not advised of the number that may have gone, but suppose you have received from 6,000 to 10,000. General Smith will also reach you as soon as the enemy could going by the way of Richmond. The balance of the force will not be more than one day behind, unless detained by the whole of Lee's army, in which case you will be strong enough.

I wish you to direct the proper staff officers, your chief engineer and chief quartermaster, to commence at once the collection of all the means in their reach for crossing the army on its arrival. If there is a point below City Point where a pontoon bridge can be thrown, have it laid. Expecting the arrival of the Eighteenth Corps by Monday night, if you deem it practicable from the force you now have to seize and hold Petersburg, you may prepare to start on arrival of troops to hold your present lines. I do not want Petersburg visited, however, unless it is held, nor an attempt to take it unless you feel a reasonable degree of confidence of success. If you should go there, I think troops should take nothing with them except what they carry, depending upon supplies being sent after the place is secured. If Colonel Dent should not succeed in securing the requisite amount of transportation for the Eighteenth Corps before reaching you, please have the balance supplied.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

P. S.—On reflection, I will send the Eighteenth Corps by way of White House. The distance which they will have to march will be enough shorter to enable them to reach you about the same time, and the uncertainty of navigation on the Chickahominy will be avoided.

U. S. G.

BERMUDA, *June* 11, 1864.

General BUTLER:

The One hundred and thirty-fourth Ohio, 100-days' men, 850 strong, have arrived. Shall I land them?

FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

BERMUDA, *June* 11, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER:

Another Ohio regiment has arrived. I have taken the responsibility to disembark them here, as the vessels cannot go up the Appomattox, and as the captains of transports have orders to return to White House as soon as possible for more troops. Is this all right?

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

FORT MONROE, *June* 11, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

We have material ready for extension of telegraph from Jamestown Island, by way of Swan's Point, Cabin Point, Garysville, to the Appomattox. Can we now have the necessary protection and assistance for our building parties and the line? There appears to be call for it now; will hurry it up.

G. D. SHELDON.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, June 11, 1864—11.05 a. m.

Lieut. Col. H. BIGGS,
Chief Quartermaster, Fort Monroe:

COLONEL: Lieutenant-General Grant desires the saw-mills at Fort Monroe to saw out all the 2-inch plank possible, and that it be put upon barges and held subject to his orders.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

JUNE 11, 1864.

Major-General GILLMORE

The One hundred and thirty-fourth and One hundred and sixty-third Ohio Regiments have arrived, and been ordered to report to the left of the line, subject to your orders.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 11, 1864.

General WEITZEL:

Don't you think it would be well to construct a strong redoubt on the high ground beyond the ravine in Turner's front? It is a good position for enfilading the enemy's lines.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 11, 1864—8.25 a. m.

General GILLMORE:

A redoubt like the one in front of No. 1 would be a good thing. It ought to afford no cover to an enemy, and ought to be open in rear.

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

11TH.

Colonel Abbot will please make an examination of the high ground in front of ravine on extreme left. An escort will be necessary to make a thorough examination. Call on General Turner for it. The best position will probably be found nearly due south from Battery No. 4.

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. } HDQRS. 1ST DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, near Curtis', Va., June* 11, 1864.

In pursuance of instructions from Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, commanding, now unfitted for duty by illness, the undersigned assumes temporary command of this division.

J. B. HOWELL,
Colonel Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Point of Rocks, Va., June 11, 1864.

Col. F. B. POND, *Commanding Brigade:*

COLONEL: The One hundred and thirty-fourth Ohio, 100-days' men, have arrived at Bermuda Hundred, and have been assigned to this command. On their arrival here they will be directed to report to you, and the general commanding directs that they be camped between your regiment (Sixty-second Ohio) and the line of intrenchments.

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 11, 1864—7.30 a. m.

General BUTLER:

Colonel Armstrong, with an Ohio regiment of 100-days' men, has just arrived here. Shall he land at Bermuda or Point of Rocks?

HINKS,
General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION, *In the Field, near Point of Rocks, Va., June* 11, 1864.

The following reorganization of the cavalry division is herewith announced:

First Brigade—Third New York Cavalry, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry; Second Brigade—Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, First District of Columbia Cavalry. No change will be made in the position of the regiments in the line of intrenchments until further orders.

By command of Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz:

M. J. ASCH,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FLAG-SHIP AGAWAM,
James River, June 11, 1864.
(Via Fort Monroe, 3.30 a. m. 12th. Received 11 a. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES, *Secretary of the Navy:*

Professor Maillefert reports the torpedoes sent as too small to be effective. They should be 18 inches long by 14 inches in diameter, to contain 150 pounds powder. I request that several of this size be furnished soon.

S. P. LEE,
Acting Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 12, 1864. (Received 13th.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have received your dispatch to Mr. Dana of the 10th instant, and desire to return to the President and yourself my most grateful thanks. The uniform kindness I have ever received from both of you led me to feel confident no mere report to my discredit would be accepted by either of you without the strongest evidence to sustain it. The expression of your continued confidence is most gratifying, and I beg to assure you it shall be my earnest endeavor to prove myself worthy of your good opinion in any position it should be thought the public interests require me to serve.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 34. { *Camp near Cold Harbor, Va., June* 12, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from command at White House, Va., and will proceed to Washington, D. C., and report to the Adjutant-General of the Army for orders.

II. Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, commanding Army of the Potomac, will assign Brig. Gen. George W. Getty, U. S. Volunteers, to the command of the garrison at White House, Va.

III. Brig. Gen. H. L. Eustis, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty with the Army of the Potomac, and will at once proceed to Washington, D. C., and report to the Adjutant-General of the Army and await orders.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 12, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

In looking over the maps it appears to be highly probable that a road can be found from D. Higgins' or W. Anderson's across to Ratcliffe's old tavern, which would give a route for your corps out of reach of shelling from the south bank of the Chickahominy. This would cross the railroad just above the mill-pond near Dispatch Station. This route would run from Miss Wicker's to Martin's, Hollins', Madison's, Tucker's, P. Higgins', D. Higgins', W. Anderson's, Ratcliffe's old tavern, &c.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: Your communication received. My leading division has started. I would like to have you withdraw General Gibbon when I withdraw General Ricketts (my last division). My picket will be withdrawn at 2, and I will notify officers of the day of other corps as far as possible. I will be at your headquarters very soon.

Very respectfully,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864—8.30 a. m.

At about 10 o'clock this morning the major-general commanding would be pleased to see division commanders at his headquarters, provided they can leave their lines with safety at that time.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Cold Harbor, Va., June 12, 1864.

The following movements are ordered for to-night: At 8.30 p. m. the Second Division will withdraw from its advanced position and occupy that portion of the newly constructed rifle-pits between Cold Harbor and Elder Swamp. At the same time the First Division will withdraw from its advanced position and mass near Livesay's house. At the same time that part of the Third Division between the left of the First Division and the swamp will withdraw, and be moved to a point on the Dispatch road to the left and rear of the division. The remainder of the division will hold the intrenchments they now occupy. The picket-line will be strengthened, and a few reliable regiments left in the advanced rifle-pits until the greater part of the division is withdrawn.

The artillery will be withdrawn at dark, preceding the infantry as follows: The batteries on General Birney's line, under his direction; two batteries on General Gibbon's line to be assigned to his division on the march, and withdrawn under his direction; two batteries on General Barlow's line to be assigned to his division on the march, and withdrawn under his direction. The remaining batteries to be withdrawn under direction of the chief of artillery, after consultation with division commanders, and to be parked near the Livesay house. As soon as these six batteries and the battalion of heavy artillery (Fourth New York) are ready to move, they will proceed to the Higgins house by the road designated to Lieutenant Fairchild by Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan this morning. If on reaching the Higgins house it is found that the road to Dispatch Station has been cleared by the Fifth Corps, the reserve batteries and battalions of heavy artillery will follow the route of the Fifth Corps to the vicinity of Long Bridge.

The First Division will move on the same road at an hour to be designated after General Barlow has massed near the Livesay house. General Gibbon will move his division immediately in rear of the First, being notified from these headquarters when to vacate the line taken up at 8.30. General Birney will have a staff officer at Higgins' to notify him when the First Division has entered the Dispatch road, when he will commence the march, following the Second Division, when he reaches the point where his line of march intersects that of the other divisions. The pickets will be withdrawn at such an hour as may be hereafter designated, under the general direction of the corps officer of the day, Lieutenant-Colonel Hammell, Sixty-sixth New York Volunteers. Those of the First and Second Divisions will assemble at the Livesay house, and take the route of the First and Second Divisions. Those of the Third Division will take the Dispatch road. The pickets of the three divisions will assemble at the point where the lines of march intersect, near the Higgins house, and from that point will constitute the rear guard, under the direction of the corps officer of the day.

General Birney will relieve the pickets of the Fifth Corps as far as Bottom's Bridge as soon as practicable. These pickets will join the pickets of the Third Division as they pass along. Fifteen ambulances and one medical wagon will move with each division. The remaining ambulances, with hospital and medical wagons, will move at dark to Tunstall's Station, and from there to the vicinity of Long Bridge, parking and awaiting the arrival of the corps. Such men as are absolutely unable to march will be sent at once to the corps hospital for transportation to the train. Division commanders are requested to adopt measures to prevent the men from falling in rear of the column and into the hands of the enemy, as happened in the last night march.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864.

The following modification is made to the order for movement tonight: It is thought a road can be found which the First and Second Divisions and the reserve artillery can take, which instead of intersecting the Dispatch Station road at Widow Higgins' does not intersect it until after the Dispatch Station road crosses the railroad. If an examination shows this road to be practicable, the First and Second Divisions and the reserve artillery will take it, and the Third Division will continue its march on the Dispatch Station road to Ratcliffe's Tavern, or till it meets the line of march of First and Second Divisions. General Birney will have a staff officer at Higgins' who will be notified when the Third Division should start. The pickets will follow the routes of their respective divisions to the point of intersection, when they will form rear guard as heretofore directed. Each division will be followed by its own ammunition and ambulance train. Corps headquarters train will move at the head of First Division train.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June [12], 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER ARTILLERY BRIGADE:

Your reserve batteries will follow General Gibbon's division, which is ordered to move. General Birney moves first, then General Gibbon, both following the road taken by General Barlow this noon.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
June 12, 1864.

Capt. W. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with circular of the 11th instant from headquarters Second Army Corps, I have the honor to submit the following statement of the organization of this division, with the names of brigade and regimental commanders:

Third Division, Second Army Corps, Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney, commanding:

First Brigade, Col. Thomas W. Egan, Fortieth New York Volunteers, commanding: Seventeenth Maine Volunteers, Capt. John C. Perry commanding; Fortieth New York Volunteers, Lieut. Col. A. J. Warner commanding; Eighty-sixth New York Volunteers, Maj. M. B. Stafford commanding; One hundred and twenty-fourth New York Volunteers, Capt. H. S. Murray commanding; Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Maj. J. W. Moore commanding; One hundred and tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lieut. Col. E. E. Lewis commanding; One hundred and forty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Col. H. J. Madill commanding; Twentieth Indiana Volunteers, Col. W. C. L. Taylor commanding; Second U. S. Sharpshooters, Maj. E. T. Rowell commanding.

Second Brigade, Col. Thomas R. Tannatt, First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, commanding: Fourth Maine Volunteers, Fifth Michigan Volunteers, Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Sixty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Ninety-third New York Volunteers, First U. S. Sharpshooters, First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery.

Third Brigade, Brig. Gen. G. Mott, U. S. Volunteers, commanding: Fifth New Jersey Volunteers, Capt. Henry H. Woolsey commanding; Sixth New Jersey Volunteers, Capt. Joseph Hays commanding; Seventh New Jersey Volunteers, Maj. Frederick Cooper commanding; Eighth New Jersey Volunteers, Maj. Virgil M. Healy commanding; Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, Col. Robert McAlister commanding; One hundred and fifteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lieut. Col. John P. Dunne commanding; Sixteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, Maj. Samuel W. Richardson commanding; First Maine Heavy Artillery, Col. Daniel Chaplin commanding.

Fourth Brigade, Col. William R. Brewster, Seventy-third New York Volunteers, commanding: Seventieth New York Volunteers (First Excelsior), Maj. [Capt.] William H. Hugo commanding; Seventy-first New York Volunteers (Second Excelsior), Lieut. Col. Thomas Rafferty commanding; Seventy-second New York Volunteers (Third Excelsior), Lieut. Col. John Leonard commanding;

Seventy-third New York Volunteers (Fourth Excelsior), Lieut. Col. Michael W. Burns commanding; Seventy-fourth New York Volunteers (Fifth Excelsior), Col. Thomas Holt commanding; One hundred and twentieth New York Volunteers, Lieut. Col. John R. Tappen commanding; Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers, Col. William Blaisdell commanding; Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Capt. Joseph Delehunt commanding.

Respectfully submitted.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Moody's House, June 12, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Major Roebling has just returned from a reconnaissance below. The Long Bridge is a bad place to force a passage. It is at present picketed by a small force of the Second North Carolina; the men on picket think it is cavalry, judging from their uniform. They talk to each other. Deserters from points above are from Ransom's brigade, they say. The Second North Carolina Infantry is in Ramseur's brigade, Ewell's corps. The approach to Long Bridge is on this side, over a narrow neck, with a swamp on each side. About 3 miles below is a good ford, it is said, at Pollard's. The enemy has no pickets below Long Bridge, so that Colonel Chapman, with the cavalry brigade, had better cross at least a part of his command there, and come up and open the Long Bridge crossing. I will suggest it to him. I have started the pontoon train out now, as they can go all the way under cover. Unless the enemy bothers us at the crossing we shall be well out of the way of everybody. The distance from Long Bridge to Jones' Bridge is reported by the cavalry to be greater than indicated on the map. It is said to be about 9 miles.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

LONG BRIDGE, *June* 12, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Wilson has crossed over some men, and they are commencing to lay the bridge. Ayres' division is bivouacked, waiting for the cavalry to get out of the way. Crawford is massing. I shall close the corps all up at this point, so as to keep the road clear behind me. The enemy fired a little.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864.

It is required to have everything in readiness to move this evening at 6 p. m.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864—5.15 p. m.

* * * * * * *

4. The command will move promptly at 6 p. m. in the following order: General Ayres' division leading, followed by artillery attached to his division; General Crawford's division following; then the reserve artillery, under Colonel Wainwright.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

You will move with your division and General Cutler's as soon as you can this evening, without the observation of the enemy, via Saint James' Church, Ratcliffe's old tavern, Ruckle's, and White Hall, to the Long Bridge, on the Chickahominy. You will be followed by the Second Corps. Leave a small picket force to watch the Chickahominy, to retire themselves at 3 a. m. to-morrow. You will relieve any cavalry pickets you find along the Chickahominy after you cross the railroad, and these will withdraw at 3 a. m. to-morrow, all the pickets following the route of the corps to Long Bridge. You will move as promptly as you can, keeping well closed up, so as to clear the road for the Second Corps, but must halt, if necessary, for the cavalry and for the pontoon trains and the other divisions of the corps, if our roads should come together. I send you the best map I have, but may have a better one this evening; and also a guide to conduct your column after crossing the railroad; but make the best arrangements you can to get along with them. I send you a copy of this for General Cutler.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 12, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General WRIGHT, *Comdg. Sixth Corps:*

Please report whether General Getty has yet joined you; if not, do you know where he is?

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SIXTH ARMY CORPS, *June* 12, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

General Getty has not yet returned. His aide has arrived and reports that the general will rejoin the army in a day or two.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS,
June 12, 1864.

Immediately after dark the corps will be withdrawn from its present position to the new line of intrenchments, which it is to hold in connection with the Second Corps till the road to be followed is well cleared of other troops, when it will move to Jones' Bridge, by way of Cold Harbor, Taylor's, J. Parsley's, Widow Via's, Goode's, Hopkins' Mill to Moody's, and thence to the bridge by way of Emmaus Church. After crossing the Chickahominy, the corps will move to Charles City Court-House by way of Vandorn's [Vaiden's]. Division commanders will examine the new line of intrenchments to-day, with a view to taking up without confusion the positions they are to occupy.

On withdrawing from the new line the order of march will be as follows: First, First Division, with one battery; second, artillery; third, hospital wagons, &c.; fourth, Second Division, followed by a battery; fifth, Third Division, with a battery, two pieces of which will precede the last brigade, and two without caissons the rear guard. The pickets holding their present line with their reserves in the front line of intrenchments will be withdrawn before daylight in conjunction with those of other corps (the exact time of withdrawal to be fixed hereafter), and will follow and join their commands as soon as practicable, under the direction of the corps officer of the day. Half of the ammunition wagons and such wagons of the medical department as in the opinion of the medical director can be dispensed with, will at once be sent to join the main trains at Tunstall's Station.

By command of Major-General Wright:

C. H. WHITTELSEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
June 12, 1864.

The following detail is ordered for picket, and the commanding officer of each detail will report to Major Daggett, Fifth Maine Volunteers, division officer of the day: First Brigade, 120 men, properly officered; Second Brigade, 200 men, properly officered; Third Brigade, 80 men, properly officered; Fourth Brigade, 100 men, properly officered. This division will probably be withdrawn to-night, and brigade commanders will hold their commands in readiness to move soon after dark. Further orders will be given through staff officers from these headquarters. The above detail for picket will be made, as far as practicable, from the troops now occupying the front line.

By command of Brigadier-General Russell:

HENRY R. DALTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. E. BURNSIDE:

The trains will be to the eastward of Tunstall's Station toward White House during the day. They will move this afternoon on

the New Kent Court-House road. Your principal quartermaster will know. You can have three wagons and two ambulances at your headquarters on the march for baggage, supplies, sick, &c.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 23. } *Near Cold Harbor, Va., June* 12, 1864.

I. Maj. Gen. J. G. Parke, U. S. Volunteers, is announced as chief of staff, Ninth Army Corps, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. Maj. J. St. C. Morton, U. S. Engineers, is announced as chief engineer of the corps, to date from May 18, 1864, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

LEWIS RICHMOND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864—11.30 a. m.

In accordance with orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the Fourth and Tenth U. S. Infantry are transferred from the Ninth to the Fifth Army Corps. The general commanding cannot part with these regiments without expressing to them his sincere thanks for the great assistance they have been to him and to the corps which he has the honor to command during this most important campaign. Their gallantry and patience has been conspicuous, and the mutual trials and dangers of the last fifty days have endeared them more to us than years of service in time of peace could have engendered. They have our best wishes and prayers for future success.

By command of Maj. Gen. A. E. Burnside:

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864.

General LEDLIE:

The general commanding desires to see his division commanders at headquarters as early as convenient this morning.

By command of Major-General Burnside:

D. R. LARNED,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Potter and Willcox.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864—5 p. m.

Brigadier-General POTTER:

GENERAL: The order of march for the divisions of the Ninth Corps will be as first indicated: General Ledlie, First Division, lead-

ing and your division following. Some misunderstanding caused me to give the order for you to take the advance. Please have a staff officer on the watch for the rear of Colonel Marshall's column so that your connection may be close.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Apperson's House, June 12, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. E. FERRERO,
Comdg. Fourth Division, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: All the trains will be at New Kent Court-House to-morrow by 12 m., part moving by White House and Cumberland and part by Saint Peter's Church—the latter road is the most direct for your troops. I hope the rear of the trains will reach Slatersville to-morrow night. I am to cross at Cole's Ferry. I will keep you informed in regard to my movements.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. H. PEIRCE,
Assistant Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
June 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Is there any objection to my relieving such troops as may be moved without attracting the attention of the enemy, and sending them to the White House to-day?

WM. F. SMITH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 12, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. F. SMITH,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

Your dispatch received. The commanding general desires that you relieve such of your troops as can be removed without attracting the attention of the enemy and send them to the White House to-day, as suggested by you.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
[*June* 12, 1864.]

Captain ELDER,
Chief of Artillery:

The general commanding directs that you withdraw your batteries, as the second line of our troops moves to take up the line of

intrenchments resting on the redoubt in rear of this camp, moving them to Tunstall's Station, there to join the Eighteenth Corps wagon train, with which you will continue to march (with Captain Cameron's squadron as escort) to the James River. You will send all but your three batteries back to their commands on withdrawing. On arriving at James River you will await further orders from these headquarters, unless you receive them from higher authority. You will not wait for the infantry to move to Tunstall's Station after withdrawing, but proceed on your road at once with your escort.

Respectfully, &c.,

N. BOWEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

There are 56 artillery horses for you at Tunstall's.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 12, 1864—11.05 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: In case we are not interrupted here to-night, what are to be my orders?

Your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Near Long Bridge, June 12, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: After a sharp resistance, in which we lost several men, the advance of Chapman's brigade, two regiments, succeeded in passing both branches of the Chickahominy on logs and drifts, and driving the enemy from his rifle-pits, and are now well out on the other side, covering the construction of the bridges. As there is an island across which the road runs, with bad approaches, the bridges will probably not be done before midnight. Our advance crossed about 9 p. m. We will clear the way for the infantry as soon as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
White House, Va., June 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

SIR: Having received intelligence of the presence of a considerable force of guerrillas, say 60 or upwards, at or near King William Court-House, I dispatched about 100 of the First Rhode Island Cavalry, under Captain Capron, to ascertain the facts in relation thereto.

He returned last night, and makes the accompanying report. Before sending out again, I have thought it proper to ascertain first whether there would be sufficient time to do so; the distance from here is between 8 and 9 miles.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

WHITE HOUSE LANDING, VA., *June* 11, 1864.

Capt. R. L. ORR,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report a scout made in the vicinity of King William Court-House, Va. I marched to Lanesville, and there learned from negroes that a force of 40 to 70 rebel cavalry were lurking about the country capturing what men were straggling about in that vicinity. Three miles from Lanesville my advance was fired on by dismounted men from the field. The advance immediately charged; they fled to the wood; I was unable to find them. I had 1 man badly wounded, and saw 11 mounted some distance through a wood and clearing. I also learned that 7 Federal soldiers were prisoners near King William Court-House, 2 having been killed. The rest will propably share the same fate if their captors cannot get them to Richmond.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. C. CAPRON,
Captain, First Rhode Island Cavalry, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, June 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, Armies of the United States:

SIR: I have the honor to make the following statement for the information of the General-in-Chief in reference to the time the different departments will require for abandoning this depot. The railroad iron and stock is now shipped; the road as far as West Point destroyed. The medical director will be prepared to move to-day by noon, unless more wounded are sent here from the front. Captain Strang, in charge of depot of repairs, will be ready in five hours. Captain Pitkin, in charge of water transportation, will be ready in twenty-four hours after receiving orders to remove. Captain Schaff, ordnance officer, can be ready in two hours. Captain Wiley, assistant commissary of subsistence, will require eight hours.

Very respectfully, &c.,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 12, 1864—12 m.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding, White House, Va.:

GENERAL: Referring to the orders sent to you this morning relieving you from duty at the White House and assigning Brig. Gen.

G. W. Getty to the command of that place, I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that you will continue on duty at the White House until you are relieved by Brigadier-General Getty. It is not known here whether General Getty has reached the White House.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE HOUSE, *June* 12, 1864.
(Received 2.15 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

Transportation by water for 16,000 troops will be required from this place to-morrow. The movement is very important, and it is necessary that all vessels suitable for transporting troops, which have been sent from this place to Washington and Alexandria, be returned at once, together with such other vessels as can be spared. General Ingalls authorized me to telegraph you.

P. P. PITKIN,
Captain, Assistant Quartermaster.

COLD HARBOR, VA., *June* 12, 1864.

Colonel BIGGS,
Chief Quartermaster, Eighteenth Corps:

Lieutenant-Colonel Dent, of my staff, has gone to Fort Monroe and Bermuda Hundred to make, or rather communicate, the necessary orders for securing the crossing of the army over James River at Fort Powhatan. Special instructions were not given, however, to send ferry-boats, pontoons, &c., that may yet be at Fort Monroe. This will be understood, no doubt, by General Butler from the instructions that have gone to him; but to expedite, I now direct that you forward up the James River all things within your charge, and request the engineer officer at Fort Monroe, for me, to send all the pontoon bridge material he may have on hand. Send also all the lumber you can, particularly the 2-inch plank. This will not be construed to interfere with sending the amount of transportation to the White House heretofore called for.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
Cold Harbor, June 12, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Go on with the corduroy suggested by Comstock. A staff officer is on way with letter of instructions to you, but did not leave here until last night. Your chief engineer will understand the corduroy meant.

GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

BERMUDA, *June* 12, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER:

Colonel Biggs telegraphs to send all tugs, steamers, &c., to him that I can possibly spare. Shall I reserve any transportation here for emergency, or shall I send down everything but the dispatch boats? General Butler asked for a list of transportation day before yesterday. Will he require any soon? Please answer, as I am detaining some steamers that came recently with troops until I hear from you.

C. E. FULLER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Quartermaster.

BERMUDA, *June* 12, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

The One hundred and thirty-third Ohio, 100-days' men, and First Maryland Cavalry, dismounted, are here on steamers Winona and Guide. Shall they be sent to Point of Rocks for disembarkation? The Guide, I am afraid, draws too much water to go up, and I should hesitate to send her unless absolutely necessary. She has the First Maryland, and they have but little baggage. Can't they march?

GEO. S. DODGE,
Captain and Quartermaster.

JUNE 12, 1864.

Capt. G. S. DODGE,
Assistant Quartermaster, Bermuda Landing:

Let the One hundred and thirty-third Ohio proceed on their transport to Point of Rocks and report to Major-General Gillmore. Let the First Maryland Cavalry disembark and march to the front and report to Major-General Gillmore.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BERMUDA, *June* 12, 1864.

Colonel SHAFFER,
Chief of Staff:

I have sent the Rebecca Burton up the Appomattox River to discharge; the steamer Andrew Hurder has just reported with the One hundred and thirty-second Ohio, Colonel Haines. The steamer draws too much water to go to Point of Rocks. Shall I discharge them here?

By order Colonel Fuller:

G. S. DODGE,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

JUNE 12, 1864.

Colonel HAINES,
Commanding 132d Ohio Volunteers, Bermuda:

If the vessel you are on draws too much water to go up to Point of Rocks, you will disembark and march your regiment early in the morning to the front and report to General Gillmore, stopping yourself at these headquarters as you pass.

By command of Major-General Butler:

J. W. SHAFFER,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
June 12, 1864.

Col. J. W. SHAFFER, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that from observations made to-day from Cobb's Hill signal station, it is discovered that the enemy are enlarging Fort Clifton by connecting it with the small earth-work on the west of the fort, which mounted one gun. Also that the enemy are now finishing an earth-work on the edge of the woods in plain sight from Captain Follett's battery and about 1¼ miles west of the signal tower. From this work they have used two guns, one a 10-pounder rifle and the other said to be a small howitzer.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

BERMUDA, *June* 12, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I am here with my regiment under orders to report to you.

W. C. COOPER,
Colonel 142d Ohio National Guard.

[Indorsement.]

Order him to go to Point of Rocks early in the morning and report to Gillmore.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 12, 1864.

Captain CASSELS,
Provost-Marshal, Fort Monroe, Va.:

The Rev. Mr. Tisdale is the agent of the Christian Commission at the Fortress. It is necessary to pass up with promptness duly accredited delegates of that Commission. It is also necessary that improper persons should be excluded. To accomplish these objects you are authorized upon consultation with Mr. Tisdale to grant passes to the authorized delegates of that Commission duly accredited. Nobody will be passed without proper credentials, and to the regularity of these Mr. Tisdale must certify, and then at his request pass such certified persons.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *June* 12, 1864—8 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I would inform you that General Butler has sent down to this place, where it arrived this morning, the pontoon bridging sent to him from Washington and by myself. I have now here 155 wooden pontoons, enough for 3,100 feet, but by the sending of over 200 chess to Colonel Spaulding to-day, and by the wear of the others on the Rappahannock River, I have the chess but for 26 to 28 feet of bridging. I have, however, ordered all others just made from the depot at Washington.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

FORT MONROE, *June* 12, 1864.

Estimate of bridge material now at Fort Monroe.—One hundred and fifty-five French pontoons, 1,000 long balks, 2,000 chesses, 144 anchors, 100 claw balks, 8 trestles complete, cables and lashings for 2,600 feet bridging, 68 pontoon trucks, 1 army forge, 3 tool wagons, 2 chests carpenter's tools (large size).

JAMES L. ROBBINS,
Captain, Fiftieth New York Engineers.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, June 12, 1864.

General Gillmore will forward to me by Wednesday morning a full report of all his operations since he was ordered to join with his command, accompanied with all the reports of the operations of the subordinate officers made to him or his division commanders. State specifically at what time each report was received from each subordinate, and what officer has failed to make a proper report. This report is rendered necessary so that by general orders I may be able to give full credit to the officers and soldiers who have behaved gallantly in the several battles. Having now waited more than twenty days since the last considerable engagement for this report, I feel obliged to state a specific time for its reception.

Respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

JUNE 12, 1864—3.40 p. m.

Major-General GILLMORE:

The commanding general directs that you send 1,000 men, with officers and with arms and one day's rations, to report to me for fatigue duty at the commissary wharf, Point of Rocks. Send a staff officer to insure the arrival of this detail at the above place at 6 o'clock this afternoon. This is of the highest importance.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brigadier-General.

GILLMORE'S,
June 12, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

It has come to my knowledge that officers and employés are in the constant practice of visiting at a gentleman's residence on north side of James River, opposite Bermuda. I have ordered it stopped in my command, and respectfully call your attention to the matter. I do not know what precautions have been taken to prevent information getting to the enemy in that direction.

Very respectfully,

Q. A. GILLMORE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 45. } *In the Field, Near Hatcher's, Va.,*
June 12, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The One hundred and thirty-third Ohio Volunteers, having reported for duty, are hereby assigned to the command of Brigadier General Terry.

By command of Maj. Gen. Q. A. Gillmore:

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Point of Rocks, Va., June 12, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have to report for the information of the general commanding that the One hundred and thirty-fourth Ohio, One hundred and sixty-third Ohio, One hundred and forty-eighth Ohio, One hundred and thirty-third Ohio, and part of the One hundred and forty-third Ohio have reported to me. By an informal order from department headquarters, I was notified that these regiments, except the One hundred and thirty-fourth and One hundred and sixty-third, were to report to me for assignment on the line by General Gillmore. The One hundred and thirty-fourth and One hundred and sixty-third Ohio have been established on my line; the others are in camp near my headquarters, except One hundred and forty-eighth, which has reported to General Kautz. The One hundred and thirty-fourth and One hundred and sixty-third reported to me, and were assigned on my line before I received the informal instructions that General Gillmore would assign the new regiments arriving.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, &c.,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TURNER'S DIVISION,
Point of Rocks, Va., June 12, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: In the absence of Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner, I have the honor to submit the following report of regiments that have this day been assigned to this command:

Regiment.	Officers.	Men.	Remarks.
134th Ohio Volunteers	29	697	
163d Ohio Volunteers	29	679	
148th Ohio Volunteers	.....	.....	Since assigned to Brigadier-General Kautz.
133d Ohio Volunteers	.....	.....	Number unknown.
143d Ohio Volunteers	.....	.....	Six companies only have arrived; 415 men.
142d Ohio Volunteers	.....	.....	
1st Maryland Cavalry	.....	.....	

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,
P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Point of Rocks, Va., June 12, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have just received the order of the major-general commanding to have the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers report to General Terry. The order for it to move has been sent them; but I would like to lay before the general commanding, the condition he leaves this command by taking away Colonel Pond and his regiment. The Sixty-second Ohio is performing the major part of my picket duty, these troops being the only ones I have that can be relied upon. The Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers has been repeatedly disgraced in orders by commanding officers for its inefficiency, and there is with me but a fragment of the regiment (200), large detachments of the best men and officers of the companies having been detailed away. Whether the negro cavalry is reliable for picket duty the major-general is the best judge; the 100-days' men, I do not think are yet. They have scarcely had a musket three weeks, and many are reported to me who do not even know how to load. They are almost totally ignorant of company or battalion drill. I do not think it prudent to send such men on picket duty in face of the enemy. Colonel Pond is the only officer of experience I have to assist me in organizing and to keep this command in working order. Colonel Cole, of the colored cavalry, is sick, and Colonel Onderdonk, of the Mounted Rifles, is in arrest; besides, these cavalry officers are liable to be sent off on detached service, leaving me without assistance. Of Colonel Sanders, of the Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, nothing need be said. I then have only the inexperienced colonels of these two 100-days' regiments, if Colonel Pond is relieved, whom I can put in charge of the lines, and upon whom I have got to depend for duty as brigade commander. In this view I most respectfully urge that Colonel Pond

and his regiment may be left with me. If it is numbers which is required on the right, I would willingly send the two 100-days' regiments (1,500 men) in place of the Sixty-second Ohio.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Point of Rocks, Va., June 12, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The One hundred and forty-eighth Ohio Volunteers have reported to me until General Gillmore could dispose of them. What disposition shall be made of them?

I am, colonel, very respectfully, &c.,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, June 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Commanding Forces, Point of Rocks:

The major-general commanding directs that the One hundred and forty-eighth Ohio Volunteers be ordered to report to Brigadier-General Kautz.

Respectfully, &c.,

ED. W. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

*ADDENDA.**

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 14, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
White House, Va.:

SIR: The commanding general directs that when the depot at the White House is broken up the Sixty-seventh Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers be ordered to join the Sixth Corps of this army, to which it belongs.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 14, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
White House, Va.:

SIR: I am directed by the major-general commanding to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, inclosing the re-

*The correspondence pertaining to operations of the forces remaining on the north side of the James, from June 13 to June 29, when the last of Sheridan's cavalry crossed to the south side of the river is continued in this volume.

port of Captain Capron, First Rhode Island Cavalry, of a scout made by him in the vicinity of King William Court-House. The commanding general directs that you send another party against the bands of guerrillas supposed to be in the vicinity of King William Court-House.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIELD ORDERS.] HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
June 14, 1864.

This command will move at 6 a. m. to-morrow, and in the following order: First, First Brigade; second, division train; third, train with wounded and pontoon train; fourth, Second Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
White House, Va., June 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your messenger reached me early this morning. Neither General Sheridan nor Hunter have arrived. Guerrillas are hovering about. Drs. Roller and Staats, Sixth Corps, and Lieutenant Oberteuffer, of General Barnard's staff, were attacked at Tunstall's Station last evening about 5 o'clock while en route to their commands by guerrillas and driven back here. A detachment of about 80 or 90 regulars were also forced to return. Every effort has been made to capture the guerrillas in King William; so far unsuccessful. Several men of ours (stragglers) whom they had captured were retaken. Two men were murdered by them.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—I have just received information that the Third Virginia (rebel) Cavalry is in the vicinity of Baltimore Cross-Roads; they overrun one of my safeguards and sent him in. One of their outposts is within half a mile of Pamunkey River.

J. J. A.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 17, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the lieutenant-general commanding.

I am not apprised what arrangements have been made for preventing the obstructions of the navigation of the Pamunkey (the only trouble I can anticipate with General Abercrombie). If none have

been made, I would suggest Admiral Lee's detaching two or three gun-boats to prevent the enemy from interrupting communication at Cumberland Bar and other points below.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[JUNE 16, 1864.—For Sheridan to Humphreys, reporting arrival of command near Guiney's Bridge, &c., see Part I, p. 784.]

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Fort Monroe, June 16, 1864—12 noon.
(Received Washington 5 p. m.)

Col. W. H. PETTES, *Comdg. Engineer Brigade, Navy-Yard:*

White House is abandoned. Send material here.

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WEST POINT, *June* 18, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: As it may be difficult for me to get to Yorktown immediately I have concluded to telegraph my dispatches from this point. I will report to army headquarters at once. General Sheridan was within 5 miles of Walkerton last night. He will probably move toward White House as soon as he can hear from his chief quartermaster, who came through with me.

G. A. FORSYTH,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 18, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

Send two of the army gun-boats, if they can be spared, and one, if two cannot go, up the Pamunkey to White House, to remain and guard the river from West Point up until the garrison is removed. A small garrison was left at White House to cover the return of Sheridan and Hunter, and to hold the railroad bridge for them to cross over.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

JUNE 18, 1864—9.40 a. m.
(Received 9.54 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Dispatch concerning the sending of army gun-boats to the Pamunkey received. I had sent Graham, with the Jesup and Chamberlain, down the river to protect transports from the light guns at Wilcox's Wharf. Will send down the river and order that the two best boats go at once up the Pamunkey.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WHITE HOUSE, VA., *June* 18, 1864—10.30 p. m.
(Received 2 a. m. 19th.)

Maj. THOMAS T. ECKERT:

Probably cannot leave here for two or three days yet. Have arranged to destroy telegraph and to go by river to base of supplies by the last boat.

BICKFORD.

CAMP NEAR WALKERTON, *June* 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to state, for the information of the major-general commanding, that the above dispatch* was started at 2 a. m. June 16, but the escort was unable to get through. Since writing the above dispatch I have been marching with my command down the north bank of the Mattapony River. My advance is to-night at Walkerton. I have taken this route, as my command was entirely out of rations and forage, and had to be subsisted off the country, and I knew that by crossing the river and moving down between the Pamunkey and Mattapony Rivers I could not supply myself. In addition I have to state that I could find out nothing about supplies being left for me, either at the White House or West Point, and shall, therefore, have to live off the country until I can get some definite information. I am doing very well at present in the way of supplies, and think that I'll do better as I move on. I have sent forward to West Point to make arrangements for rations, &c., for my troops and to send off my wounded and prisoners of war.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that in your advance to-day you will arrest all citizens (male) capable of bearing arms.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 18, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you detail two regiments of your command to march at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning to West Point, as an escort to the train of wounded men and prisoners.

E. B. PARSONS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Part I, p. 784.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., June 19, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

General Sheridan having returned without forming a junction with General Hunter, another diversion may become necessary for the protection of the latter. I wish, therefore, you would direct General Sheridan to remain at White House and await further orders. His horses require rest, which they can get as well at White House as here. His stock of ammunition ought to be replenished at the same time his orders go to him. Two army gun-boats were sent from here yesterday to keep the river clear from West Point to White House.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 19, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch directing that General Sheridan remain at the White House until further orders, has been received. The necessary instructions have been given for the renewal of his ammunition.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 19, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Fort Monroe, Va.:

In case the line between Fort Monroe and White House is not working, Major-General Meade desires that you send the following dispatch to General Sheridan, at White House, by special boat, and in case it becomes necessary to send a boat, please notify the ordnance officer at Fort Monroe, so that he can forward ordnance supplies at the same time:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 19, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN,
White House, Va.:

The commanding general directs that you remain at the White House, and there await further orders. The chief ordnance officer of this army has been directed to send at once the necessary ammunition to White House to renew your supplies. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 19, 1864.

The Cavalry Corps will march at 7 a. m. to-day to Dunkirk. The following will be the order of march, viz: First, First Cavalry

Division, Brigadier-General Torbert; second, pontoon train; third, Second Division, Brigadier-General Gregg. Brigadier-General Gregg will detail one regiment as rear guard of the column.

By command of Major-General Sheridan:

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Walkerton, June 19, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you have the mill at this place burnt. You will please send an officer in charge of the party to see that the order is executed.

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
Camp near King and Queen Court-House, Va., June 19, 1864.

Col. P. HUEY,
Commanding Escort to Cavalry Corps Train:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you proceed with your own regiment and the Sixth Ohio Cavalry, also the dismounted men of this corps, as escort to the corps train, to a point on the York River, opposite West Point. At this point transportation will be furnished the wounded to Fort Monroe. The dismounted men will be transported by boat to the White House or ferried across the York River and march to White House. You will return with the train via Dunkirk as soon as possible. The bridge will be kept down at Dunkirk for you.

I am, colonel, very respectfully,

JAS. W. FORSYTH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, June 19, 1864.

Col. WILLIAM HOFFMAN,
Commissary-General of Prisoners, Washington, D. C.:

General Sheridan will bring in to-day to West Point 375 rebel prisoners. I will send them to Point Lookout as soon as they arrive, under proper guard. The temporary mustering officer will send you the necessary rolls as soon as completed.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 20, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

No reports indicating anything but quiet along the lines have been this morning received. Major Forsyth, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, ar-

rived last night with dispatches from General Sheridan, the duplicate of those sent by telegraph from Yorktown. Major Forsyth has been directed to await the orders of the lieutenant-general commanding. Orders have been sent to General Sheridan to await further instructions at the White House. Your attention was called last evening to the reported position of General Hunter, 10 miles southwest of Lynchburg. This renders the probability of his reaching the White House very remote and it becomes a question of how long that post should be retained after Sheridan leaves it. It will be maintained so far as my orders until otherwise instructed. I propose to-night to hold my present lines with the Sixth, Ninth, and Fifth Corps and keep the Second in reserve. I have reason to believe, from prisoners and contrabands, that Beauregard has been re-enforced by two divisions of Hill's corps, Wilcox's and Anderson's, and possibly others. The enemy's line is continued as far beyond my left flank as I have been able to reconnoiter, and they are, busily occupied strengthening it. I do not propose making any movement to-day. If you will be at home this morning I will ride down to see you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 20, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Wilson was directed to report the moment he was ready for service. To-day is his third day of rest. Your dispatch has been sent to him to show him the importance of his being ready. Where do you suppose the enemy's cavalry to be? And do you not think that with the knowledge of Sheridan's withdrawal, Hampton will be drawn into Richmond ready to be thrown on any raiding party? It has occurred to me that with Hunter's position as known, Sheridan would be more likely to communicate with him and assist him by going from here up the south bank of the James, than from the White House. In that case Wilson could join him and make his force such that he could not be stopped. If a bridge is thrown over at Deep Bottom Sheridan could cross there. I make these suggestions for what they are worth. I proposed riding down to the Point to see you if you remained at home to-day, but have had no reply to my inquiry.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 20, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding, &c.:

In view of the location of General Hunter, as reported in the rebel papers, and the fact that General Sheridan cannot carry supplies with him from the White House to make an effective raid against the enemy's communications north of the James, you may direct his immediate return to the Army of the Potomac. The manner of returning and route is left to you. Direct the commanding officer

at White House to break up that post and send his Veteran Reserve troops back to Washington, bringing all the balance to City Point; this latter to take place on the departure of General Sheridan.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 20, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Direct Major Forsyth, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, to come to this place and report to General Ingalls, who will furnish him with transportation to the White House and hand him a letter of instructions for Major-General Sheridan. Issue an order to be sent by him to Brigadier-General Getty, directing him on the departure of General Sheridan to break up the White House, to send all the Veteran Reserve Corps invalids to Washington, and to proceed with the balance of his command and all public property to City Point. Direct the quartermaster's department to furnish the necessary transportation for the above and also to be provided with ferry-boats at Fort Powhatan to ferry Sheridan across the James River in case he cannot cross at the pontoon bridge above Malvern Hill. Notify General Ingalls at once of General Abercrombie's command, specifying particularly the Veteran Reserves.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 20, 1864—3 p. m. (Received 3.20 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Lieutenant-General Grant, City Point:

Your dispatch in relation to General Sheridan's command received, and the necessary orders will at once be issued.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 20, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Lientenant-General GRANT:

Warren now holds to the Jerusalem plank road. To-night I shall withdraw the Second Corps, the Ninth holding between the Fifth and Sixth, and will mass the Second on the left and rear of the Fifth; then, when the Sixth is relieved, as you propose, I will move both corps, Second and Sixth, to the left, and endeavor to stretch to the Appomattox. A deserter in to-day, belongs to McLaws' division, Longstreet's corps. He says the corps came to our front on the 18th, last day of our fight, and that the corps is on the enemy's right. Sheridan's last dispatch, by Major Forsyth, was dated the 18th, at Walkerton, on the Mattapony. This place is only 10 miles from the White House. I don't know where Sheridan could be this morning, because, even if he had gone to West Point on the 19th,

as he indicated, he would have learned of the White House being still occupied and would have returned there. In case he was not on the way this morning he will certainly hear the guns and hurry up, so that Abercrombie ought to be all right.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 20, 1864—3.30 p. m. (Received 3.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Hdqrs. Lieutenant-General Grant, City Point:

There is a battery at the White House and a battalion First Rhode Island Cavalry. Shall they march with General Sheridan or come around by water?

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *June* 20, 1864—3.25 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

The battery referred to and the Rhode Island Cavalry will march with Sheridan, also all wagons and animals.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 20, 1864—3 p. m. (Received 3.30 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. R. INGALLS,
City Point:

In compliance with instructions received from Major-General Meade, I have to inform you that according to the latest return General Getty's command at White House is made up as follows:

Regiments.	Officers.	Men.
18th and detachments of 10th and 11th Regiments, Veteran Reserve Corps	12	617
67th Pennsylvania Volunteers	6	305
28th U. S. Colored Troops	15	466
1st Rhode Island Cavalry	14	270
Provost guard	2	183
3d New Jersey Battery	3	145
25th New York Cavalry, dismounted	20	386
Total	72	2,372

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The foregoing includes the present for duty only, an allowance of, say, one-seventh additional had better be made for those present but not for duty.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 165. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *June* 20, 1864.

* * * * * * *

8. Major Forsyth, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, will at once proceed to City Point and report to Brig. Gen. R. Ingalls, chief quartermaster, by whom he will be furnished with transportation to the White House, and letter of instructions to Major-General Sheridan, commanding Cavalry Corps. On the departure of Major-General Sheridan's command from the White House, Brigadier-General Getty will break up the depot at that place, send all the Veteran Reserve Corps invalids to Washington, and, with the remainder of his command and all public property at White House, with the exceptions herein indicated, proceed to City Point and there report for further instructions. The quartermaster's department will provide the necessary transportation to carry into effect this order, and will also have ferry-boats in readiness at Fort Powhatan to transport General Sheridan's command across the James River in case he cannot cross at the pontoon bridge at Malvern Hill. The battery of artillery at the White House, and the battalion of Rhode Island Cavalry, and all wagons and animals will accompany Major-General Sheridan's command.

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By command of Major-General Meade :

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
White House, Va., June 20, 1864—5 p. m.

Brig. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff :

I have the honor to notify the major-general commanding of the arrival of my command here, and the receipt of his telegram to remain till further orders. I want ammunition first and supplies of all kinds. My wounded and prisoners have all been shipped. I find but little subsistence and forage here, but they can, I presume, be obtained at Fort Monroe. I shall take the necessary means to obtain the same.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 20, 1864.

Major-General SHERIDAN :

You will, as soon as practicable after receiving this, move your command and trains from the White House to City Point. There will be a bridge thrown across the James at Deep Bottom, above Malvern Hill, on which you will endeavor to cross your command. Should this be impracticable, you will proceed to Douthat's Landing, opposite Fort Powhatan, where ferry-boats will be provided for bringing you across. It will be well for you in passing up the James to communicate with Fort Powhatan the fact of your being in the vicinity.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

WHITE HOUSE, *June* 20, 1864.
(Received 8.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

We were attacked this morning about 7.30 by rebel cavalry and artillery; the firing still continues. I think we shall be able to hold our position until General Sheridan arrives, who is somewhere between Dunkirk and the White House. I have crossed the supply train to the north side of the river to avoid the enemy's shells, which have been falling in the midst of it. The firing has abated and distant artillery can be heard above us on the river. I will hold this place to the last.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, Va., June 20, 1864—4 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

This place was attacked at 7 a. m. this day by Hampton's division of cavalry and artillery. So far I have foiled all their attempts to get into the depot. About one hour ago one of their caissons exploded. There has been no firing from them since. The head of General Sheridan's column is in sight. But 2 or 3 wounded in my command. General Getty has just arrived.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 20, 1864—6 p. m.

General ABERCROMBIE,
White House:

Your dispatch of 10.20 a. m. received. Hold out at all hazards. Two gun-boats were sent from here yesterday, and must now be at White House. General Sheridan is also near you, if not yet arrived.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

DOUGLAS FERRY, *June* 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General ABERCROMBIE,
Commanding:

It will be impossible to communicate with Major-General Sheridan on this side. General Sheridan crossed at Dunkirk last night or this morning on his way to the White House. If you can, hold the enemy in check until General Sheridan gets up in the enemy's rear. General Sheridan has enough force to whip any force Hampton has.

P. HUEY,
Colonel, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
No. 10. } *White House, Va., June* 20, 1864.

The undersigned hereby relinquishes the command of the troops at this station to Brigadier-General Getty. In doing so he avails himself of this opportunity of expressing his high appreciation of the services of his staff in their respective positions, tendering his sincere thanks to Captain Babcock and the officers of the navy for their very efficient aid and support to the land forces in the persist ent attack on the post of the day, by the enemy.

J. J. ABERCROMBIE,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
No. 11. } *White House, Va., June* 20, 1864.

In compliance with paragraph 8, of Special Orders, No. 160, of June 12, 1864, from the headquarters Army of the Potomac, Brigadier-General Getty, U. S. Volunteers, assumes command of the garrison at this post.

By order of Brigadier-General Getty:

R. L. ORR,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General GETTY,
Commanding, White House:

GENERAL: Major-General Sheridan has been ordered to join the Army of the Potomac. So soon as he has left you will break up the depot at White House and, sending your Veteran Reserves to Washington, bring the balance of your command and all public property to City Point. Transportation will be furnished by the quartermaster's department.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 21, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

All is quiet this morning. The Second Corps is moving to take position on the left of the Fifth, the Fifth extending as far as the Jerusalem plank road. At this point I find the enemy occupy their old line of works, which, being on a radius of 3 miles from Petersburg, will make the line to hold from the plank road to the river alone considerably longer than to the river below. There is no doubt Lee will throw his whole force over, except sufficient to hold in check the force at Bermuda Hundred. Wilson will be ordered to leave at 2 a. m. to-morrow, and directed to proceed as rapidly as possible to the junction of the Lynchburg and Danville roads and do there as much damage as possible to both these roads. Hampton being yes-

terday at the White House will relieve Wilson of any apprehension of being disturbed, and I trust Sheridan will keep Hampton occupied. I don't think Sheridan will have much chance of getting to Deep Bottom bridge in the face of Hampton unless he is able to give him a severe and serious defeat. Wilson will be instructed when at the junction to endeavor to communicate with Hunter near Lynchburg. The junction is about half way between this point and Lynchburg. If Sheridan were here there would be no doubt, I think, of he and Wilson going to Lynchburg. Do you wish to send any instructions to Hunter by Wilson?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I found on my arrival here yesterday two divisions of the enemy's cavalry in front of this place. This morning I crossed the bridge. The enemy fell back behind Black Creek at a point near Tunstall's Station. This place is all right. The enemy shelled the trains yesterday before I arrived. They were yesterday evening all crossed over to the north side of the Pamunkey.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 21, 1864—8 a. m. (Received 8.25 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. GEORGE W. GETTY,
Commanding at White House, Va.:

The following order* was sent to you yesterday by Major Forsyth, Eighth Illinois Cavalry. If this telegram reaches you in season the commanding general directs instead of moving your infantry by water, you accompany and support General Sheridan with the effective portion of your infantry ordered to City Point. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE HOUSE, *June* 21, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Shall I await here for Ord? General Sheridan thinks he was marching for Lynchburg.

GEORGE W. GETTY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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* See Special Orders, No. 165, paragraph 8, June 20, p. 784.

WHITE HOUSE, VA., *June* 21, 1864.
(Received 12 m.)

Maj. THOMAS T. ECKERT,
Washington, D. C.:

No danger now. Enemy withdrew about 4 p. m. Sheridan arrived at 6; crossed at daylight. Hear artillery 2 miles down river now (9 o'clock), but think we shall have no more of enemy here. Sheridan remains here until further orders, but is directed to get ready to join the Army of the Potomac soon as possible. I remain until I get his permision to close. Abercrombie's command, something over 2,000 infantry and ten pieces of artillery, still here, but I understand leave to-day. General Abercrombie was this morning relieved by General Getty, and has left for Yorktown. I destroyed all my telegrams yesterday. Our tent was very prominent, and was the first target for their shells.

BICKFORD.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
White House, Va., June 21, 1864.

OFFICER COMMANDING AT CUMBERLAND POINT, VA.:

The general commanding directs me to inform you that one of General Sheridan's brigades of cavalry will move down toward your post and encamp in your neighborhood. They will send scouting parties on all the roads. Be careful not to mistake them for the enemy's cavalry.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

R. L. ORR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST RHODE ISLAND CAVALRY,
White House, Va., June 21, 1864.

Capt. R. L. ORR,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the return of Captain Rogers with his squadron. He reports that he proceeded to Cumberland Landing, via New Kent Court-House road, discovering large clouds of dust moving toward him. He sent a sergeant to report the fact, and that he would return by the river road. The captain had arrived within about 2½ miles of White House Landing, on his return last night (20th), when his advance guard came upon a column of rebel cavalry and artillery; they opened upon him with their artillery and carbines, dismounting 1 man, taking him prisoner. The captain retired to Cumberland Landing, the enemy following close upon his rear. On returning to-day he found by inquiries of the inhabitants that the force that attacked him consisted of a portion of Hampton's cavalry division, numbering about 1,000 strong. The enemy took the Williamsburg road toward Richmond. About 9 a. m. to-day the captain met General Sheridan's cavalry, about 3 miles down the

river on the road leading to Cumberland Landing. Captain met with no opposition on his return to-day. Arrived here about 5 p. m. to-day.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. FARRINGTON,
Major, Commanding Regiment.

P. S.—Shall I withdraw my cavalry pickets? General Sheridan's command is bivouacked directly in advance of my pickets, and probably has pickets several miles outside of my line.

P. M. FARRINGTON.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
White House, Va., June 22, 1864—4 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I moved against the enemy's forces at this place yesterday; they all fell back over Black Creek, taking a strong position near Tunstall's Station. During the night the enemy retreated and crossed Bottom's Bridge. I sent General Torbert's division to Jones' Bridge this morning. Have not yet learned whether or no General Torbert has secured the crossing at that place. I shall start the trains to-night for Jones' Bridge, and hope to get everything off by to-morrow morning. I have in the trains here 800 wagons.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES, Jr.,
Commanding First Brigade, Second Division:

GENERAL: In compliance with instructions from corps headquarters, you will move your brigade to Baltimore Store, following the division of General Torbert, which has been ordered to Jones' Bridge. You will keep up communication with General Torbert, and in case he requires support at Jones' Bridge, you will use your brigade for that purpose.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
White House, Va., June 22, 1864—10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

The enemy have disappeared from our front. Torbert's division moves immediately for Jones' Bridge. Everything will be away from here, I think, by to-morrow morning.

GEO. W. GETTY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 22, 1864—6.30 a. m. (Received 7 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. G. W. GETTY,
Commanding at White House, Va.:

Your dispatch of the 21st in relation to General Hunter received. I suppose it was sent before the order breaking up the depot at White House reached you. General Hunter when last heard from was marching for Lynchburg.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
White House, Va., June 23, 1864—4 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The crossing of the Chickahominy was secured at Jones' Bridge by General Torbert. Everything has gone from this place except the rear guard. Some delay in our movement occurred in consequence of the supplies being insufficient.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES, Jr.,
Comdg. First Brigade, Second Div., Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Colonel Gregg's brigade is in position on the stage road at Wall's Tavern. You will at once move your brigade from Baltimore Store to Jones' Bridge, where you will receive further orders from General Sheridan.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. MCM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 24, 1864. (Received 4.45 p. m.)

Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City Point, Va.:

Direct General Sheridan to drop down to where the army crossed James River, and General Ingalls to furnish transportation to cross his command.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

JUNE 24, 1864—4.50 p. m.

General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, General Meade's Headquarters:

Colonel Smith, of General Sheridan's command, has just arrived here to see General Grant. He reports that Sheridan's command

and wagon train have arrived at Wilcox's Wharf. The enemy appear and are reported to be in great force on the opposite side of Herring Creek. Hampton's force crossed by Saint Mary's Church last night toward Westover, and the negroes say that it was about three hours in passing. Yesterday one brigade of the enemy's cavalry made an attack for the purpose of getting into the wagon train, but were repulsed. This morning the advance guard of the train was attacked, but the enemy were driven back until they took up the position on the opposite side of Herring Creek. The enemy is supposed to be in force at Phillips'. General Sheridan desires to know whether he had better push through with his train; whether we have any force on the north side of the river to assist him, if necessary; whether it is deemed safe to try to risk the train to come up to Harrison's Landing. General Ingalls is of the opinion that the command would better drop down in the Neck, where the army crossed, and where the train could be easily protected and ferried over at Douthat's, and at the point where the pontoon was laid. Please give directions. The officer is waiting.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Jordan's House, Va., June 24, 1864—3.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

Major-General Sheridan directs me to say that the train moves via Charles City Court-House; that he desires you to move via Saint Mary's Church, and to report to him as soon as you arrive at that point.

GEO. A. FORSYTH,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. CAV. CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near Cross-Roads, 3 Miles from Charles City Court-House,
June 24, 1864—10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. D. MCM. GREGG,
Commanding Second Division:

There is some skirmishing in front of Charles City Court-House, on road to Harrison's Landing. The enemy attacked the Ninth New York Cavalry and were driven back about 1½ miles. I am now moving the infantry down, and will move Torbert's division. Look out for Davies. Support him, if necessary.

Very respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 24, 1864.

General D. MCM. GREGG:

Colonel Chamberlain has just reported to me. I will park the train this evening at or near Wilcox's Landing. You can move down

on the road you went out this morning, if you are satisfied that the whole of the rebel cavalry is at Phillips'. There is a direct road to Richmond from Phillips' Shop. Have they not gone back on that road toward Richmond? The small force shown here has disappeared. Encamp at Charles City Court-House.

Respectfully,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 25, 1864—11.30 a. m.
(Received 2.20 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

Richmond papers of yesterday state that Hunter at last accounts was at Fincastle. He will probably go to Beverly. There will be no use in Stahel attempting to reach him. All quiet here. Sheridan is now crossing the river where the army crossed. Yesterday evening Gregg's division had a very severe fight with the enemy between Charles City Court-House and Long Bridge. I do not know the result, but understand unofficially that we saved all the wagon train, which seemed to be the object of the attack. The loss was said to be heavy on both sides, the enemy coming in close canister range. The same Richmond paper announces that Wilson reached Burkeville. I shall try to give the army a few days' rest, which they now stand much in need of.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 25, 1864—1 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

Can you send 1,000 or 1,500 infantry to Douthat's Wharf before daylight. Sheridan has been attacked this evening, and with great difficulty and with heavy loss of men has saved his train so far. He expects another attack at daylight, and would be much assisted if some infantry could reach him in time.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

JUNE 25, 1864—2.55 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Have ordered two regiments from my line to march to wharf at Point of Rocks. Have ordered up transportation to take them to Douthat's Wharf. Will you send down and get ready a boat or boats at City Point in case mine have not steamed up or are unready? Cannot Sheridan fall back to Wilson's Wharf, about 4 miles? He will there have the cover of our work and 1,500 men to assist him. There are also two gun-boats there to aid him. A boat from City Point can reach Wilson's Wharf in an hour and fifteen minutes.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

JUNE 25, 1864—3.15 a. m.

Will General Grant please tell me exactly where Sheridan is, that I may be able to give directions to the officer in charge of my men?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding, &c.:

Charles City Court-House is the place where our troops are, and where the enemy is confronting them. The wagons and one division of cavalry have come through to Wilcox's Wharf, but have been moving during the night to Charles City Court-House.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
City Point, Va., June 25, 1864.

General SETH WILLIAMS,
Adjt. Gen., Army of the Potomac, General Meade's Hdqrs.:

I have returned from Douthat's Landing. General Sheridan is there with his command. His trains are all in without loss. They are in good condition. Gregg's loss of men in the fight yesterday is much less than was reported this morning. Arrangements are good for crossing, though it will take several days to ferry the whole command over.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General, Chief Quartermaster.

CITY POINT, *June* 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

The command from White House consists of Twenty-eighth U. S. Colored, 9 officers and 336 enlisted men; Third New Jersey Battery, 3 officers and 141 enlisted men; Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry, 15 officers and 390 men, dismounted; detachment Twenty-fifth New York Cavalry, dismounted, 18 officers and 293 men, and Sixty-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, 6 officers and 205 enlisted men. The command is encamped on James River opposite Fort Powhatan. I report for further orders.

GEO. W. GETTY,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 26, 1864—4 p. m.
(Received 6 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

All is quiet and our men resting. Sheridan is crossing the river near Fort Powhatan, unmolested by the enemy. Gregg's loss was

much less than I was led to suppose by the verbal report first received. Sheridan says he thinks 225 killed, wounded, and missing will cover it, whilst he thinks the enemy's killed and wounded is much greater. This is Gregg's loss between the Chickahominy and James River, not counting losses in previous engagements. Nothing heard from Wilson since he left Burkeville. If it is possible, I wish paymasters could be sent here to pay the troops. The officers particularly are suffering.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 26, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

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I have no report from General Sheridan, but such as you received when last here, and as you sent him orders direct, I presume his movements and progress are known to you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., June 26, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

After Gregg's loss General Sheridan sent an officer to me with a verbal statement of his situation. I immediately sent the garrison from here to his relief, and also all the men that could be well spared from Bermuda Hundred, and wrote him a note telling him what to do in case of another attack. It was then after 1 o'clock at night, and you and your troops being distant I did not think it worth while to bother you, particularly as all that could be done for the relief of Sheridan had to be done from here or Bermuda. Sheridan is now safe in as comfortable a place as he can be for recruiting his men and horses. You can send him such orders as you deem best. I think he should be got up leisurely to your left, where he can rest and at the same time add strength to your position. Whilst this excessively hot and dry weather lasts we will give the men all the rest we can. I have ordered out all the guns and other articles called for by General Hunt.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *June* 26, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Major-General Sheridan is now at these headquarters if you wish to send him any instructions.

By direction of Lieutenant-General Grant:

BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
City Point, June 26, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

An officer can be sent immediately on arrival here to General Sheridan's headquarters. That general was expected here at 10 to-day. His command occupies the Neck at Douthat's. It is well situated for water, rest, grass, &c. His trains are being ferried and will be over to-morrow.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Douthat's House, Va., June 26, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report my arrival at this place with the Cavalry Corps, Brigadier-General Getty's command, and all the wagons and ambulances left at the White House. On the 22d instant General Torbert secured the crossing at Jones' Bridge, and on the 23d I crossed the command and wagons to the south side of the Chickahominy. Just after parking my trains the enemy made an attack on my advance on the Long Bridge road, but was driven back by Colonel Devin's brigade and six companies of colored troops. On the 24th resumed the march toward Haxall's via Charles City Court-House. I was obliged to divide my command, and in the evening the enemy in overwhelming force attacked Gregg's division. He was forced to fall back in the direction of Charles City Court-House, punishing the enemy at every step. Not a horse or wagon was lost in bringing over this long train of nearly 900 wagons. The cavalry we had annoying was Hampton's and Fitz. Lee's divisions, Butler's mounted infantry, and 1,600 dismounted cavalry, armed with muskets. The teams are being crossed rapidly over the James River.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 26, 1864—12.30 a. m. (Received 12.50 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that when your command has crossed the James River, you proceed to take up a position on the Petersburg and Jerusalem plank road on the left flank of the army, sending a staff officer to these headquarters in advance of your reaching the plank road, to receive special instructions for your guidance.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The officer who takes this dispatch to you will acquaint you with the position now occupied by this army.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
City Point, Va., June 26, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

Your dispatch of this date directing me to take position on left flank of army after crossing the James River received.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. CAVARLY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Douthat's House, June 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

The major-general commanding has directed me to inform you that he will be away this a. m.

A. F. HAYDEN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. G. W. GETTY,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that when the troops composing your command at the White House have crossed the James River you distribute the several regiments and detachments as follows: The battalion of Rhode Island cavalry, to the Cavalry Corps; the battery of New Jersey artillery, to the Second Corps; the regiment (believed to be the Sixty-seventh Pennsylvania) belonging to the Sixth Corps, as also any other troops heretofore belonging to the Army of the Potomac, to their respective commands. All other troops will be ordered to report to Major-General Burnside, commanding Ninth Army Corps. Having given the necessary orders to your troops, you will then proceed to join your division in the Sixth Corps. The staff officer who takes this dispatch to you will acquaint you with the positions now occupied by the several corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12. } HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
James River, Va., June 26, 1864.

In accordance with orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the regiments and battalions of this command, after having crossed the James River, will proceed to the Army of the Potomac near Petersburg, Va., and report as follows: Battalion First Rhode Island Cavalry, to the major-general commanding Cavalry Corps; Third New Jersey Battery, to the major-general commanding Second Corps; Sixty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, to the major-gen-

eral commanding Sixth Corps; Thirteenth Ohio and Twenty-fifth New York (dismounted) Cavalry, and Twenty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, to Major-General Burnside, commanding Ninth Corps

By command of Brig. Gen. George W. Getty:

R. L. ORR,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 27, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General SHERIDAN,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

A body of the enemy's cavalry exceeding 1,000 strong was seen leaving Petersburg this morning in a southerly direction on a road near the Weldon railroad, probably for the purpose of re-enforcing the enemy's cavalry that followed Wilson, or of interposing between Wilson and us on Wilson's return. To anticipate any attempt at a dash at the trains of the army, Gibbon's division has been sent to hold the crossing of the Blackwater by the old Norfolk or Baxter road, and the approaches between that and the Jerusalem plank road on the right and Prince George Court-House on the left. General Ferrero's division is sent to hold from crossing of Blackwater, near Prince George Court-House to Old Court-House; the dismounted cavalry holding the crossing of Bailey's Creek, at the Old Court-House. The left of the army covers the Jerusalem plank road as far as 4 miles from Petersburg. The commanding general desires you to join the army as soon as practicable, and be prepared for active co-operation with General Wilson to aid his return.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
City Point, Va., June 27, 1864—3.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Your dispatch has just been received. I will make every effort to cross the river rapidly. The wagons and ambulances will all be over to-night and the whole command to-morrow night. I will cross one brigade of Gregg's division over the river this evening.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
June 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that the dismounted men under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Gould, and many of which are with the trains, be ordered to report at once to Major Beaumont, commanding dismounted camp near City Point. Horses are now arriv-

ing at the rate of 200 daily, and it is very important that all the dismounted men should be at this camp that they may be mounted, armed, and equipped. Arrangements have been made to furnish everything necessary without delay. This will relieve Lieutenant-Colonel Gould from his present duty, and I would respectfully request that he be ordered to join his regiment.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
June 27, 1864.

Col. J. I. GREGG,
Comdg. Second Brigade, Second Division:

COLONEL: General Davies' brigade has been ordered to move to the landing to be ferried over the river. You will relieve his pickets connecting the left of your line with the right of the First Division, and relieve the picket of the First Division at Gregory's farm. Your brigade will follow General Davies in crossing, but probably not before to-morrow morning.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brig. Gen., U. S. Vols., Comdg. Second Cav. Division.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES, Jr.,
Comdg. First Brig., Second Div., Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: You will at once move your entire brigade to the landing, where it will be ferried over the river this evening.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
June 27, 1864.

Col. J. IRVIN GREGG,
Comdg. Second Brig., Second Div., Cavalry Corps:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you move your brigade punctually at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow to the landing to be ferried over the river. Your pickets will remain as at present established and will be relieved by the First Division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 2D DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
June 27, 1864.

This brigade will move punctually at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow, 28th instant, to the river to be ferried over. The pickets will remain as

at present established until relieved by the First Division. Order of march: First, Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Lieut. Col. S. Wilson; second, Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Maj. W. M. Biddle; third, Battery I, First U. S. Artillery, Capt. A. M. Randol; fourth, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Lieut. Col. J. K. Robison; fifth, Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Maj. M. Kerwin; sixth, First Maine Cavalry, Maj. S. W. Thaxter; seventh, Second Pennsylvania Cavalry, Lieut. Col. J. P. Brinton. Regimental commanders, through their adjutants, will notify these headquarters of their readiness to march at the hour above mentioned.

By command of Col. J. Irvin Gregg:

JNO. B. MAITLAND,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Wind-Mill Point, Va., June 29, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

All my command will be over the river by 9.30 a. m. to-day. I may be detained here to-day supplying my troops with subsistence, forage, and clothing. Will march to-morrow morning. Will try, however, to move to-day.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *June* 29, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The last of General Sheridan's command crossed the James River at 11 a. m.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster.

CONFEDERATE CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 117. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, May 20, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XIII. The four brigades composing Pickett's division, viz, Kemper's, Hunton's, Barton's, and Corse's, and also Hoke's old brigade, will proceed immediately by railroad to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia and report to the general commanding. Brigadier-General Gracie's brigade will take position at Chaffin's farm in place of Hunton's brigade, and a regiment from that brigade will relieve the Twenty-eighth Virginia Volunteers, now on temporary duty in this city.

XIV. Col. R. E. Burke, Second Regiment Louisiana Volunteers, will report to Brig. Gen. James L. Kemper, for temporary duty with the reserve forces of Virginia.

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XX. The cavalry under the command of Colonel Shingler, on temporary duty in the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, will report to Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., commanding, &c., in this city.

* * * * * * *

XXV. The Third Virginia Volunteers, forming a portion of Pickett's division, will proceed immediately to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia and report to the general commanding for assignment to duty.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, *May* 20, 1864.
(Via Chesterfield, 21st. Received 8 a. m. 21st.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

The enemy has continued quiet to-day; he is taking ground toward our right and intrenching, but whether for attack or defense is not apparent.

R. E. LEE.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 44. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *May* 20, 1864.

The commanding general announces to the army with heartfelt sorrow the death of Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, late commander of the Cavalry Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia. Among the gallant soldiers who have fallen in this war General Stuart was second to none in valor, in zeal, and in unfaltering devotion to his country. His achievements form a conspicuous part of the history of this army, with which his name and services will be forever associated. To military capacity of a high order and all the nobler virtues of the soldier he added the brighter graces of a pure life, guided and sustained by the Christian's faith and hope. The mysterious hand of an Allwise God has removed him from the scene of his usefulness and fame. His grateful countrymen will mourn his loss and cherish his memory. To his comrades in arms he has left the proud recollection of his deeds, and the inspiring influence of his example.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[MAY 20, 1864.]

Lieut. Col. G. M. SORREL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: From information derived from several different scouts, I do not think the enemy has advanced much to our right to-day. A skirmish line is still in my front, but I cannot learn that it is supported by any respectable force. I am told the enemy has a picket near Crutchfield's Mill, on the Po; we have one on the other

side. At General Lee's suggestion General Early replaces the Texas brigade on the left of my line, and that brigade moves to the other side of the Po in support of the guns there.

C. W. FIELD,
Major-General.

P. S.—I think General Lee desires this information sent him.

C. W. F.

[MAY 20, 1864.]

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to say that Maj. Gen. W. H. F. Lee reports at 2.30 p. m. that his pickets were driven in at Smith's Mill, where the Telegraph road crosses the Ny River. They report that the enemy has a line of dismounted skirmishers, followed by infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. MARSHALL,
Aide-de-Camp.

P. S.—The enemy seems to be lengthening out his line down the Ny, offering us an opportunity to strike at him. The general wishes to know whether you discover any movement of the enemy in your front, and whether his rear is weak enough for you to strike at?

C. M.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 20, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL, *Commanding Corps:*

GENERAL: General Lee bids me say that the enemy seems now, by the reports of our reconnoitering officers, to have extended his left to the Po in front of Anderson's. He has heard nothing from you of the enemy in your front, or of the necessity of your retaining your present position. He desires you to have your troops in readiness to move at daybreak to-morrow to take position on the right. He desires you to move at that time without further orders, provided you find nothing to detain you in your present position. Your troops can move by the road in rear of the lines out of view, and cross the Po at Crutchfield's. Your wagons can move by the old Spotsylvania Court-House road. He desires to hear from you.

Yours, very respectfully,

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY CORPS,
May 20, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: I have put into the trenches one of Kirkland's regiments, of Heth's division, and one of Harris' regiments, of Anderson's division, numbering together about 475 men, which were in reserve. This will enable Field to withdraw the Texas brigade.

J. A. EARLY,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

MAY 21, 1864—4.45 a. m.

Respectfully referred to General Anderson.

The Texas brigade can be posted south of Po to support battery and connect with General Ewell, who will take position on his right.

R. E. LEE,
General.

ANDERSON'S DIVISION,
Battle-field, Spotsylvania Court-House, May 20, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp, &c.:

COLONEL: My attention has been called to your note of the 13th instant to Maj. Gen. C. M. Wilcox, acknowledging the receipt of certain stand of colors claimed to have been captured by parties of Lane's brigade the day previous, 12th May, and in justice to a modest but none the less gallant soldier, I beg to invite attention to the following facts and circumstances as furnishing abundant testimony that the flag of the Seventeenth Michigan, claimed to have been captured by Lieut. J. M. Grimsley, Company K, Thirty-seventh North Carolina Troops, and accordingly accredited in your note, was in fact, beyond doubt, captured by Private Thomas W. Savage, Company I, Forty-first Virginia Infantry. Savage, than whom no man stands higher for integrity and soldierly conduct, tells me that he captured a color bearer and several prisoners, together with two of Lane's brigade, whom the Yankees had in possession; that he ordered the party to the rear under the charge of the two recaptured men of Lane's brigade, first placing guns in their hands; that he did not stop in the heat of the fight to take the colors from the Yankee color bearer, deeming it more important to pursue the fight. Captain Girardey, acting upon the division staff, met a squad of Yankees in charge of two of our men, embracing a Yankee color bearer, yet carrying his own colors. He directed the surrender of these colors to a lieutenant of ours standing near by. This was just outside the woods near the ice-house. Major Etheredge, commanding the Forty-first Virginia Infantry at the time, and Lieutenant Riddick, of Savage's company, bear testimony to the correctness of Savage's statement, as will be seen by their communications to me herewith inclosed. There were in all but four flags captured in this flank movement of the two brigades, Lane's and Mahone's, of the 12th May, and one of these was a guidon, two stand of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania and the Seventeenth Michigan. There is no dispute about the guidon or the two stand of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania. One of these latter was captured by Lane's brigade, and in your note is accredited to Lieut. O. A. Wiggins, North Carolina troops; the other stand, one which bears a plate of inscription as a present to the regiment, was handed by myself to Col. W. H. Taylor. This flag was captured by a litter-bearer, Private Leonidas H. Dean, Company B, Twelfth Virginia Infantry, who seized a gun in the fight and captured this stand of colors, color bearer, and 8 prisoners, and delivered the whole over to me. It is clear then that the flag captured by Savage must be the same flag which Captain Girardey caused to be surrendered to a lieutenant, because there was but one flag of the four brought out by the Yankee color bearer, and it is equally plain that these were the

colors of the Seventeenth Michigan; the other three stand are plainly accounted for. I invite attention to this matter that merit may not be accorded to the undeserving, more than to secure for Savage the little credit that may be due for the capture of a flag.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, &c.,

WM. MAHONE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Anderson's Division.

[Indorsements.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 8, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill, commanding, &c., who is requested to make a full investigation of the circumstances of the capture of the colors of the Seventeenth Michigan Regiment, and send report of the same as early as practicable.

By command of General Lee:

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Maj. Gen. C. M. Wilcox, commanding, &c., for the desired investigation and report.

By command of Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill:

WM. H. PALMER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS WILCOX'S DIVISION,
June 9, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Colonel Barry, who will have reported clearly and distinctly all the facts connected with the capture of the three flags on the 12th ultimo, a Michigan, Pennsylvania, and a battery flag; let the report be made as soon as possible.

C. M. WILCOX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS,
June 12, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

The statements seem to be irreconcilable.

A. P. HILL,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 12, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, for the information of the Department, in connection with the captured flag of the Seventeenth Michigan Regiment forwarded a few days since. Lieutenant Grimsley's deposition, alluded to by Colonel Barry, will be forwarded as soon as received.

For General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HDQRS. 41ST VIRGINIA INFANTRY, MAHONE'S BRIG.,
May 21, 1864.

Major-General MAHONE:

SIR: I have the honor to state that I know that I saw a stand of colors with a lot of prisoners sent by me to the rear, which were captured by Private Thomas W. Savage, of Company I, of this regiment, on the 12th of this month, in a charge made by this brigade on the enemy, and that the said Savage recaptured from the enemy at the same time two North Carolinians of General Lane's brigade. I believe the colors was from the Seventeenth Michigan Regiment. The statement of Lieut. J. B. Riddick, of Company I, of this regiment, who was an eye-witness of the transaction, will more fully explain the matter. There were several non-commissioned officers and privates who know the same facts and whose statement can be procured if deemed necessary.

Respectfully, &c.,

WM. H. ETHEREDGE,
Major, Comdg. Forty-first Virginia Infantry.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

IN LINE OF BATTLE, *May* 21, 1864.

I know Private Thomas W. Savage to be a truthful and reliable man, and I take pleasure in stating that I believe he is wholly entitled to the credit of capturing the colors of the enemy on the 12th of May. I did not see the transaction because I was in the center of the regiment all the time, and Company I is on the extreme left.

R. B. BRINKLEY,
Capt. Co. I, and Actg. Major 41st Virginia Infantry.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S DIVISION,
May 21, 1864.

Lieutenant RIDDICK,
Company I, Forty-first Virginia:

General Mahone desires your statement of the facts connected with the capture of the colors of the Seventeenth Michigan Regiment and the Fifty-first Pennsylvania Regiment. Your early attention to this matter is desired.

THOS. S. MILLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAHONE'S BRIGADE.

Major MILLS:

Thomas W. Savage, of my company, captured one stand of colors. Regiment not known.

J. B. RIDDICK,
Lieutenant, Commanding Company I.

—

WILCOX'S LIGHT DIVISION,
June 11, 1864.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to return the papers of General Mahone with reference to the capture of flags from the enemy on the 12th

ultimo, near Spotsylvania Court-House, referred to me from corps headquarters for investigation and report. I referred the papers, as will be seen, to Colonel Barry, commanding Lane's brigade, for report, and the report is herewith inclosed. I beg leave to state what little I know personally of the three flags forwarded by myself to army headquarters, accompanied by a note explaining by whom they were captured. In the afternoon of the 12th ultimo, after the action in which Lane's and Mahone's brigades were engaged was nearly over, Major Engelhard, assistant adjutant-general of the division, came up to me, I being at the battery near the barn, from the woods in which Lane's brigade had been engaged, bearing a Federal flag, the Fifty-first Pennsylvania. Not long after this, a few minutes, an officer rode along in the rear of the line of rifle-pits waving a Federal flag in view of our troops, who cheered as he passed. Lane's men in the mean time were coming out of the woods, and soon formed in line in rear of the rifle-pits near the Court-House. I rode down to the brigade and saw two Federal flags in the ranks of this brigade. The following day I directed these flags to be forwarded to me with a statement as to the manner of their capture and by whom they were captured. When the flags were received by me I forwarded them to army headquarters, accompanied by a note explaining by whom they were captured. The flags so forwarded were those of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania, the Seventeenth Michigan, and a battery flag. The flag borne by the officer who rode in rear of the rifle-pits I know nothing of, neither did I know the officer; he was not of my division. Several days after the flags were forwarded by me to headquarters, and after a reference to it had been made in the Richmond papers, I met General Mahone at the church near the Court-House. He said to me that he would like to say a few words to me, for he knew that I had innocently been led into an error with reference to the flags forwarded by me to headquarters, and reported by me as captured by Lane's brigade. I told him that I was willing, of course, to be put right if any mistake had been made. General Mahone then went on to state and to explain that the flag of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania had been taken by a man of his brigade, and gave some details and particulars. I stated to the general that Major Engelhard had brought the flag to me, that he had received it from the hands of the officer who had captured it. General Mahone insisted that I must be mistaken, for he had taken down a memoranda in pencil of the flag, and had sent it in out of the fight. I could not see how there could be any mistake on my part. Major Engelhard came up at this time and stated to General Mahone how he had come in possession of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania flag. I then told the general that perhaps it was the flag that the officer rode along the lines with that he had taken the memoranda of. He said no, he knew nothing of that, but it was the flag of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania, while I and Major Engelhard knew that we had in our possession this Fifty-first flag when this officer rode by us carrying the flag that has been referred to above. I would regret exceedingly to have made any official statement to the commanding general that was not correct, and I took all precautions not to state anything not borne out by official statements of others. I believe now that my official note with reference to the flags is entirely true; and at the interview between General M. and myself the only point at issue was that Lane's brigade had the credit of taking the Fifty-first Pennsylvania flag. From the general's letter it appears now to be the Seventeenth Mich-

igan. I am so clear in my recollection that it was the flag of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania that the trouble was about that I would like for General M. to know that such is my opinion. He said nothing about the Seventeenth Michigan. I feel no interest in the matter except to be satisfied in my own mind that my official note with reference to the flags was correct. If General M. can make it appear that my note was incorrect I will be under obligations to him, and take great pleasure in correcting it. A court of inquiry, with orders to report all the facts with reference to the capture of the flags, could soon clear up all doubts in the case.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. M. WILCOX,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS LANE'S BRIGADE,
June 10, 1864.

Maj. JOSEPH A. ENGELHARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following statement in regard to the recent capture by this brigade of a guidon and two flags from the enemy in a charge upon them on the 12th ultimo. The guidon was captured by Private James H. Wheeler, Company E, Eighteenth Regiment North Carolina Troops, which was witnessed by many of the officers and men of his regiment. The flag of the Fifty-first Pennsylvania Regiment was captured by Lieut. O. A. Wiggins, Company E, Thirty-seventh Regiment North Carolina Troops, in the presence and by direction of Brigadier-General Lane. The flag of the Seventeenth Michigan Regiment was captured by Lieut. J. M. Grimsley, Company K, Thirty-seventh Regiment North Carolina Troops, which was witnessed by 25 or 30 men of this brigade. The latter stand of colors is the only one in dispute claimed by General Mahone, and "that merit may not be accorded to the undeserving more than to secure for Lieutenant Grimsley the little credit that may be due for the capture of a flag," I invite your attention to the following, establishing by facts which cannot be questioned his right and title to the credit of the capture. I regret to say that Lieutenant Grimsley was wounded at Jericho Ford on the 23d ultimo, and is now at home, rendering it impossible for me to get a written statement from him in time to embody it in this report. Lest the controversy may be continued, however, I have written him to forward his deposition concerning the capture, properly authenticated. Before his departure, Captains Hale, assistant adjutant-general, and Nicholson, assistant inspector-general to this brigade, heard General Lane say to him that he had heard that some of General Mahone's men claimed to have captured his flag, to which Grimsley very indignantly replied, denying it, asserting upon oath the falsity of their claim, and his ability to prove his own by a number of men of his regiment, "eye-witnesses" to the transaction. Corporal Plummer, Company K, and Privates Heath, Company B, Alexander, Company C, and Mitchell, Company K, Thirty-seventh Regiment North Carolina Troops, "than whom no men stand higher for integrity and soldierly conduct," who were "eye-witnesses of the affair," have been carefully and closely examined by me, and they all agree in the following statement: That Lieutenant Grimsley, with 25 or 30 of his regiment, met up with a Yankee

color-sergeant and some half dozen other Yankees; that Lieutenant Grimsley demanded their surrender, to which the sergeant replied "Certainly, lieutenant, but as I have carried the colors so long do let me bear them to the rear;" that Lieutenant Grimsley consented, directing some of his men to take charge of them and keep a "sharp lookout" upon them. Corporal Plummer, in addition and just here, testifies that at that time the Yankee sergeant took off the oil-cloth cover which belonged to the flag, and which he had tied around his waist, and also the staff pouch (now used in the Thirty-seventh Regiment North Carolina Troops) and gave it to him. Just then a Yankee officer, "a large man, whom the men called colonel," came up with a squad of 15 or 20 men. Lieutenant Grimsley went up to him and remarked that he (the colonel) was completely surrounded, and in order to save his own life and the lives of his men they had better throw down their arms and be conducted to the rear. The colonel agreed, remarking to his men, "Boys, we are surrounded and had better surrender." They did so, and as our forces were then falling back Lieutenant Grimsley with his men conducted the party to the rear with the colors. Just before getting to the edge of the woods Lieutenant Grimsley, probably desirous of carrying his own capture himself into our lines, told the Yankee sergeant to hand the flag over to him, which he did. The four witnesses above named assert positively that they remained with Lieutenant Grimsley and by the side of the Yankee ensign the whole time; that they were not at any time captured by the enemy and recaptured by one of General Mahone's men; that none of Mahone's men were near at any time that they were aware of, and, remaining as they did constantly with the colors and Lieutenant Grimsley, they did not see nor hear of "Captain Girardey, acting on the division staff," who, it is said, directed some colors to be handed over to a lieutenant "in the field near the ice-house."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. D. BARRY,
Colonel, Commanding Lane's Brigade.

ATLEE'S, *May* 20, 1864.

Col. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON:

I am moving up west side of Central railroad, by Merry Oaks, to Spott. Wingfield's, from which place I can get either to Hanover Court-House or to Wickham's Turnout.

FITZ. LEE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 20, 1864.

General S. COOPER, *Adjutant and Inspector General:*

GENERAL: The Third Virginia Regiment, of Kemper's brigade, is detained by General Beauregard somewhere in his department. Please require him to send it forward immediately, and he should explain why he withholds a regiment when the brigade to which it is attached is ordered to move.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 20, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: Please direct special orders, viz: Brig. Gen. P. M. B. Young, now in Richmond, to take charge of the bodies of cavalry arriving here from south for Army of Northern Virginia, and prepare them as rapidly as possible for active field service, and when prepared respectively send them forward at once to report to Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee. When all shall have been sent, he will himself proceed to Major-General Lee and report in person for assignment to their command.

For General Bragg:

I am, general, very respectfully,

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 20, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: By direction of the President, I yesterday sent inclosed telegram from his office to General Beauregard, for the movement of Hoke's brigade, and the three brigades of Pickett's division; Lightfoot's artillery battalion, belonging to Ransom's command, was also ordered to this side. Since that telegram, the infantry has been directed, as you know, to proceed and join General R. E. Lee. Hunton's brigade, now at Chaffin's Bluff, should move, too, with its division. Please order General Beauregard to send Gracie's to relieve it. Elliott's City Battalion, temporarily attached, should not go, but the regiment of Hunton's in the city ([Twenty]-eighth Virginia) should be relieved by one from Gracie's brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Inclosure.]

RICHMOND, *May* 19, 1864.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD
Chester Station:

Please inform me when, where, and how the enemy crossed to the north side of James River, as reported this morning by Colonel Baker. Order the three brigades of Pickett's division, Hoke's brigade, and Lightfoot's battalion of artillery, to cross the bridge immediately above Drewry's, and report to Major-General Ransom. Troops from South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, are en route, and should commence arriving in Petersburg in two days.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

[WILMINGTON, N. C.,] *May* 20, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Richmond:

Twelfth Georgia Battalion, 480 strong, left here at 11 a. m. to-day. Part of Eighteenth Georgia Battalion here now, balance will arrive

to-night; the whole will leave at 11 a. m. to-morrow, some 250 or 300 strong. I have not been informed of any other troops. I will inquire south.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

Report of inspection of the battalions of heavy artillery of the Richmond Defenses, May 20, 21, 23, 24, and 25, 1864.

First Division, Lieut. Col. J. W. Atkinson commanding, composed of Tenth Virginia Battalion, Maj. J. O. Hensley commanding; Nineteenth Virginia Battalion, Maj. N. R. Cary commanding.

Second Division, Lieut. Col. James Howard commanding; composed of Eighteenth Virginia Battalion, Maj. M. B. Hardin commanding; Twentieth Virginia Battalion, Maj. J. E. Robertson commanding.

Disposed on the intermediate line as follows:

Osborne road: One lieutenant and 11 men—two 24-pounder siege guns with only 20 rounds of ammunition apiece.

Fort Davis (a work on the extreme left of the line, connecting Chaffin's Bluff with the intermediate line): One company—one 6-pounder, 60 rounds; one 12-pounder howitzer, 55 rounds.

New Market road: Detachment Company C, Tenth Virginia Battallion—two 6-pounders, 45 rounds each; two buckets and one trail handspike needed.

Darbytown road: One company Tenth Virginia Battalion—two 32-pounders, 20 rounds each; three 6-pounders, 64 rounds each; one 8-inch howitzer.

Williamsburg road: Company D, Nineteenth Virginia Battalion; Companies B and C, Tenth Virginia Battalion—two 24-pounder Coehorn mortars, five 12-pounder field guns, one 18-pounder rifle, one 6-pounder, one 8-inch shell gun; 50 rounds for each, except 18-pounder rifle, which has only 39.

New Bridge road: Companies A and C, Nineteenth Virginia Battalion—three 6-pounders, 150 rounds each; two 24-pounder siege guns, 52 rounds each.

Mechanicsville road: Companies D and E, Tenth Virginia Battalion—one 32-pounder siege gun, 62 rounds; two 24-pounder howitzers, 45 rounds each; one 6-pounder, 150 rounds.

Meadow Bridge road: Company E, Nineteenth Virginia Battalion—one James 12-pounder rifle, 124 rounds; one 10-pounder Parrott, 98 rounds; one 8-inch howitzer, 40 rounds; one 24-pounder howitzer, 88 rounds; one 32-pounder siege gun, 52 rounds; one 24-pounder siege gun, 50 rounds.

Mitchell tract road: Detachment Dabney's company, Twentieth Virginia Battalion—one 24-pounder howitzer, 42 rounds. Main body of Eighteenth Virginia Battalion as infantry.

Brook road: Main body Twentieth Virginia Battalion—one 24-pounder howitzer, 70 rounds; two 32-pounder siege guns, 60 rounds each; one 8-inch howitzer, 40 rounds.

Mill road: One officer and 22 men of Twentieth Battalion—two 6-pounders, 50 rounds each.

Deep Run road: One officer and 30 men from Twentieth Battalion—two 24-pounder siege guns, 50 rounds each; one 12-pounder howitzer, 49 rounds; one 24-pounder howitzer, 65 rounds; one 6-pounder, 62 rounds. Tarpaulin for protection of ammunition bad.

Plank road: Company C, Twentieth Battalion—one 6-pounder, 56 rounds; three 24-pounder siege guns, 52 rounds each. One ladle for 24-pounder and two lanterns needed.

In the work overlooking the canal are two field guns manned by a detachment from the navy battalion.

On the south side of James River the intermediate line is incomplete from Broad Rock road to the river on the right. The troops in this quarter are, therefore, posted in the forts of the interior line as follows:

Battery 14: Detachment Green's company Louisiana Light Artillery (just exchanged)—1 officer and 20 men, one 8-inch shell gun, 40 rounds; one 32-pounder, 40 rounds; three 6-pounders, 50 rounds each. This work is entirely commanded by the ground a few hundred yards in front.

Battery 15: Detachment of Company D, Eighteenth Virginia Battalion, and Green's Louisiana company—five 32-pounders, 30 rounds each; two 6-pounders, 50 rounds each; one 12-pounder howitzer, 26 rounds.

Battery 17: Detachment (1 officer and 17 men) Green's (Louisiana) company—one 8-inch shell gun, 40 rounds; one 32-pounder, 40 rounds.

The following guns are disposed on the intermediate line, each with a detachment of 5 men from the Eighteenth Virginia Battalion and Green's (Louisiana) company:

Broad Rock road: One 12-pounder, 40 rounds; two 6-pounders, 50 rounds each; one 12-pounder howitzer, 40 rounds.

Between Broad Rock road and Petersburg railroad: One 6-pounder, 50 rounds; one 12-pounder howitzer, 39 rounds.

Petersburg railroad: One 8-inch shell gun, 100 rounds; one 10-pounder Parrott, 45 rounds.

Petersburg turnpike: One 6-pounder, 50 rounds; one 12-pounder howitzer, 39 rounds.

Second battery from the river: One 6-pounder, 50 rounds.

Battalion commanders report that they have no officers whom it would be expedient to drop for incompetence or drunkenness. There are no schools of tactics.

Drill: As infantry, imperfect; in Companies A and C, Nineteenth Virginia Battalion, bad; as heavy artillery, good, except detachment Company A, Twentieth Battalion, on Mill road. Most of the commanding officers report that owing to the heavy details for guard duty in Richmond during the last ten months they have been unable to drill their commands. The morale of these troops has been doubtless much impaired by this service. Three drills a day have recently been ordered by General Pemberton, and the details for city duty are suspended. With the exception of two or three companies, which have seen service, the men have had no artillery practice. The non-commissioned officers are reported as generally ignorant of the theory of firing.

No officers absent without leave; 9 men who received furloughs remain absent without leave. Clothing very good; 11 men entirely without shoes, the remainder generally with excellent shoes; 72 men without a blanket. These battalions have no transportation.

Arms: One thousand one hundred and twenty-five smooth-bore, caliber .69; 28 rifled, caliber, .69; 215 rifled, caliber .58; 260 rifled, caliber, 54. In no case were the arms in as good order as is required

of troops in garrison; many were rusty. Ammunition for artillery and small-arms in good condition. The magazines on the intermediate line are generally damp.

Staff departments: Lieutenant-Colonel Howard has no staff, Lieutenant-Colonel Atkinson has an adjutant. Each battalion has a regularly appointed adjutant, except the Nineteenth, in which an officer is temporarily detailed for the duty; an acting assistant quartermaster detailed from the line, and an assistant surgeon; and the Eighteenth has a lieutenant detailed as acting ordnance officer. The number of extra duty men is not excessive. Four men of the Twentieth Battalion are improperly detailed as a permanent guard at Mr. Lyon's house; they should be relieved at short intervals.

As artillerists: It is not probable that these troops would do good service in an emergency, on account of their almost entire want of practice in or out of the presence of the enemy; as infantry, scattered and broken up, as the companies now are, they cannot be considered efficient. Two or three companies of veteran artillerists would be a much more reliable force at the guns on the lines of Richmond, and these battalions organized as a brigade of infantry (1,429 bayonets), if it can be legally done, would make a handsome re-enforcement to any army in the field.

Respectfully submitted.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Lieut. Col., Asst. Adjt. Gen., on Inspection Duty.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA.,
No. 9. } *May* 20, 1864.

* * * * * * *

V. Maj. Gen. W. H. C. Whiting, at his own request, is relieved from the command of the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, and will proceed to Wilmington, N. C., and resume command of the Third Military District.

* * * * * * *

VII. Pursuant to instructions from the War Department, the brigade of Brigadier-General Gracie will proceed to Chaffin's Bluff and report to the commanding general of the Department of Richmond, relieving the brigade of Brigadier-General Hunton. The brigade of Brigadier-General Colquitt will relieve that of Brigadier-General Gracie at once.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 20, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD, *Headquarters:*

GENERAL: I send you some reports just received and a sketch.* It is reported also by the signal that as many as three regiments have been seen at Red Bluff. How many regiments are coming from the south, and what will we have here for the city? There is nothing now but Sixth North Carolina, about 300, and the militia.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 20, 1864.

General WISE,
Commanding Brigade, Hill's Division:

GENERAL: The following is my indorsement on your report:*

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 20, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

In one portion of this report General Wise makes a statement that he thought I was drunk. I declare upon my honor as a gentleman that from my arrival here and through the whole period covered by these reports herewith I have drunk nothing but water and coffee; and further, that since the first battle of Manassas it has been my practice never to touch spirits when the enemy is in my front. The order he refers to in the latter part of his letter was not issued, and I am surprised that General Wise should have embodied it in his report. With regard [*sic*] they are, as well as I recollect, substantially in accord with my own. I have sufficiently touched upon the matter in my report,† written before I received this. I intended to issue such an order, but at request of General Martin refrained, withdrawing the same.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

I beg that if any of your staff had the same impression with yourself, you will please to show them this.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
May 21, 1864—8.40 a. m. (Received 10.30 p. m.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

The enemy is apparently again changing his base. Three gunboats came up to Port Royal two days since. This morning an infantry force appeared at Guiney's; his cavalry advanced at Downer's Bridge, on Bowling Green road. He is apparently placing the Mattapony between us, and will probably open communication with Port Royal. I am extending on the Telegraph road, and will regulate my movements by the information [*sic*] of his route. I fear [*sic*] will secure him from attack till he crosses Pamunkey.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 118. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, May 21, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. Brig. Gen. P. M. B. Young, Provisional Army, C. S., now in Richmond, will take charge of the bodies of cavalry arriving here from the south for the Army of Northern Virginia, as well as the dismounted men now in Richmond and its vicinity. The latter will be armed and equipped and ordered to report to Col. Bradley T. Johnson, commanding at Hanover Junction. The former he will prepare as rapidly as possible for active field service, and, when prepared,

* Not found.

† See Part II, p. 256.

send them forward promptly to report to Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee. When all shall have been sent he will proceed in person and report to Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee for assignment to their command.

* * * * * * *

XVI. Capt. William H. Coe, of the Invalid Corps, will report to Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., commanding, &c., in this city, for assignment to duty with Brig. Gen. John H. Winder.

* * * * * * *

XIX. General G. T. Beauregard will relieve the guard of 100 men belonging to Hunton's brigade stationed at Mattoax Bridge, on Richmond and Danville Railroad, by 200 men from his command. The guard as soon as relieved will proceed to join its command, now serving with Army of Northern Virginia.

* * * * * * *

XXIX. Capt. V. J. B. Girardey, assistant adjutant-general, is relieved from duty on the staff of Brig. Gen. A. R. Wright, and will report to Col. R. H. Chilton, assistant adjutant and inspector general, in this city.

XXX. Col. William Butler, First Regiment South Carolina Volunteers, will report without delay to General G. T. Beauregard, commanding Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, for assignment to duty.

XXXI. The Twelfth Battalion Georgia Volunteers will proceed at once to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia and report to the general commanding for assignment to duty.

XXXII. The Eighteenth Georgia Battalion will proceed at once to the Mattoax Bridge, on the Richmond and Danville Railroad, and relieve the detachment of the Twenty-eighth Virginia Volunteers, Hunton's brigade. The detachment on being relieved will move promptly to its command, Army of Northern Virginia. The Eighteenth Georgia Battalion will constitute the permanent guards to the bridges over the Appomattox and the one 2 miles beyond over Flat Creek.

* * * * * * *

XXXV. All the companies raised in the State of Virginia for local defense and special service, commonly called home guards, will report to Brig. Gen. James L. Kemper, commanding reserve forces of Virginia, in this city, for orders.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 128. HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *May* 21, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. William Terry will report to Lieutenant-General Ewell for assignment to the command of the brigade formed by uniting the commands of Generals Steuart, J. A. Walker, and J. M. Jones.

II. Brig. Gen. C. A. Evans will report to Lieutenant-General Ewell for assignment to the command of Gordon's old brigade.

* * * * * * *

IV. Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill, having reported for duty, Maj. Gen. J. A. Early is relieved from the command of his corps and will report to Lieutenant-General Ewell, to take charge of his own division. Major-General Gordon will be assigned to the command of Johnson's division. The commanding general takes this occasion to express his thanks to Maj. Gen. J. A. Early for his conduct in the command of the Third Corps in the late trying emergency.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
May 21, 1864.

DIVISION AND ARTILLERY COMMANDERS:

The major-general commanding desires that you will prepare your troops to move at a moment's notice. Do not withdraw them from the trenches yet, but have them in readiness to move as soon as you receive further orders. If they are not already supplied with two or three days' cooked rations they should be at once.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. M. SORREL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 21, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: General Lee desires you to have pickets out on the road by which you marched, so as to avoid a surprise by the enemy. General Hampton reports the enemy's infantry advancing from Milford down the road toward Junction. General Lee's headquarters are 1½ miles below Junction, on Telegraph road, right-hand side, in an orchard near an old house, with a chimney running through the middle. Please report yours.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 21, 1864—3 p. m.

[General ANDERSON:]

GENERAL: General Early reports that he has swept his front and finds nothing but a line of skirmishers. I have directed General Field to sweep his front, and if he finds enemy gone, to prepare his troops to march and report result to you. I wish you, if he reports enemy gone, to put your troops in motion at once on the route which I have designated to you.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 21, 1864—4.15 p. m.

[General R. H. ANDERSON:]

GENERAL: General Early reports the enemy having left his front as far as the Gayle house. General Field has just advanced his skirmish line and taken 9 prisoners from Ninth Corps, which they say is in his front. Unless we can drive these people out, or find out whether they are all gone, we are detained here to our disadvantage.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, *May* 21, 1864.
(Received 8.40 a. m.)

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Hanover Junction:

I wish the troops from Richmond to continue route to me. Troops from the valley can halt for the present at the Junction.

R. E. LEE.

SPOTSYLVANIA COURT-HOUSE, *May* 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

Remain at Junction. Defend the position. Get up your transportation and be prepared to move. Fitz. Lee is following cavalry.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 21, 1864—11.40.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Hanover Junction:

Enemy reported moving toward Richmond; one column by the Bowling Green road, another by Downer's Bridge from Guiney's toward Milford. Send out to ascertain approach of enemy, and notify General Fitz. Lee. Halt troops from Richmond at Junction. Remove stores from Chesterfield to Junction, and make every preparation to oppose him.

R. E. LEE.

HANOVER COURT-HOUSE, *May* 21, 1864.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

My scouts report no enemy on north side of Pamunkey River.

FITZ. LEE,
Major-General.

PEAKE'S STATION, *May* 21, 1864—8.15 a. m.

Col. B. T. JOHNSON:

The enemy's cavalry in heavy force are again advancing up the Pamunkey River. They now occupy Hanover Court-House.

FITZ. LEE,
Major-General.

L. M. CAMPBELL'S, *May* 21, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General BRECKINRIDGE:

GENERAL: I met the enemy near Wright's Tavern, 2½ miles from Milford, where they showed themselves in some force. I think about five regiments were seen. At the poor-house I drove them back, but they are still on this side of the river. I shall occupy the road from Milford to the Junction to-night, and will advise you of any movement. General Corse is near Penola, his left resting on this road. Scouts just in say that only 6 of Sheridan's men crossed the Pamunkey, and that they went to Fredericksburg. The raiding party who burned Hanover Court-House went down toward Charles City. This party, between here and Milford, could be cut off unless they are much larger than I suppose. I am sure that I could burn the bridge behind them, and an attack in front would destroy them. Could you send any more troops up to effect this? I know this country thoroughly, and I think that a good blow might be struck. I shall be here to-night. If any of the cavalry come to the Junction let them know that I am here.

Yours, very respectfully,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

NEAR PENOLA, *May* 21, 1864—2 p. m.
(Via Chesterfield.)

Major-General BRECKINRIDGE:

Colonel Porter states the enemy's cavalry appeared at Bowling Green this morning at 7 a. m., took the road to Milford and occupied it about 11 a. m. Our infantry are supposed to have retired by the Milford bridge. Another column of three regiments, it is stated, has crossed at Downer's Bridge, between Guiney's Station and Milford. The indications are that they are striking for Chesterfield. I shall endeavor to cover the road from Milford to Chesterfield.

M. D. CORSE,
Brigadier-General.

CHESTERFIELD, *May* 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE:

This morning Kemper's brigade was attacked at Milford, by a large number of Yankee cavalry, and were compelled to retire as their ammunition gave out. Sixty-one captured. Reported the Yankees are advancing in this direction, with two brigades, on the Hanover Junction road. I have 200 men and one piece artillery on picket; on the road from Milford, 300 men, one piece artillery. Have you any orders for me?

D. B. BRIDGFORD,
Major, Commanding, &c.

CHESTERFIELD, *May* 21, 1864.

Major-General BRECKINRIDGE:

Received your dispatch. Have sent one piece of artillery to General Corse at his request. He is now occupying the roads between Penola and Milford on this side of the river. One of my scouts reports he met Yankee cavalry in line of battle near the poor-house,

1½ miles from the bridge at Milford ; also in line of battle at Wright's Tavern. Will keep you constantly posted. I have a very heavy train of commissary, quartermaster, and ordnance wagons. I am in doubt whether to send them on to the army or not.

D. B. BRIDGFORD,
Major, &c.

CHESTERFIELD, *May* 21, 1864.

Major-General BRECKINRIDGE :

I am ordered by General Lee to fall back to Hanover Junction as soon as the stores are sent off, I think some time to-night.

D. B. BRIDGFORD,
Major, &c.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 21, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL : I respectfully request that you inform General Beauregard that the guard of 100 men at Mattoax Bridge, on Richmond and Danville Railroad, is from Hunton's brigade, ordered to Army of Northern Virginia. It must be immediately relieved by at least 200 men and must proceed to join its brigade.

For General Bragg :

I am, general, very respectfully,

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

[WILMINGTON, N. C.,] *May* 21, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG, *Richmond, Va. :*

The Eighteenth Georgia Battalion left here for north at 11 a. m., 200 strong ; also 150 furloughed men gone to join their command. No information of other troops from south.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

Abstract from field return of troops in Hoke's division, Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke commanding, for May 21, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
Martin's brigade	136	1,822	1,958	.....
Hagood's brigade	92	1,444	1,809	3,734
Clingman's brigade	122	1,433	1,596	2,900
Colquitt's brigade	135	1,569	1,875	2,978
Read's battalion artillery	17	355	418	529
Grand total	502	6,623	7,656	10,141

Composition of Hoke's Division.

Martin's Brigade.

17th North Carolina.
42d North Carolina.
66th North Carolina.

Clingman's Brigade.

8th North Carolina.
31st North Carolina.
51st North Carolina.
61st North Carolina.

Hagood's Brigade.

7th South Carolina Battalion.
11th South Carolina.
21st South Carolina.
25th South Carolina.
27th South Carolina.

Colquitt's Brigade.

6th Georgia.
19th Georgia.
23d Georgia.
27th Georgia.
28th Georgia.

Read's Thirty-eighth Virginia Battalion Artillery.

Blount's battery.
Caskie's battery.
Macon's battery.
Marshall's battery.

JOHNSON'S HEADQUARTERS, *May* 21, 1864.

Dr. J. R. FRETWELL
(Care Col. W. H. Stevens):

Can you raise some men, and bring down the eight torpedoes via Drewry's Bluff? I can detail a few men here. I want them assigned for floating down upon the monitors that are shelling us. McDaniel has disappointed me.

JNO. A. WILLIAMS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Chester, Va., Hancock's House, May 21, 1864.

His Excellency President DAVIS, *Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: Your letter* of the 20th instant has been delivered by Colonel Melton. I shall do all in my power with my limited means to hold in check the enemy in my front, who has nearly double my present force, and, if possible, I will compel him to evacuate his present strong position. I succeeded yesterday, after a severe struggle, in obtaining the shortest defensive line in front of his works, which extend from the James River to the Appomattox. This line is about 3 miles long, and when properly fortified will enable me with a small force—say about 10,000 men—to hold in check and neutralize the force of at least 25,000 men, which the enemy is now reported to have on the peninsula of Bermuda Hundred. To drive him from his present position the best plan would then be to send a force of about 4,000 or 5,000 men to storm Fort Powhatan, and establish there a battery of heavy guns, to command the navigation of the James River at that point. This could be accomplished in a very few days. Then by putting into the river torpedoes, and a rope obstruction, under the protection of the guns of the fort, no enemy's vessels could pass up or down the river, and he would be compelled to abandon his present position.

With regard to re-enforcing General Lee, I shall be most happy to do so whenever you shall judge proper to order it. The prisoners

*Not found.

taken yesterday report no part of Butler s forces as having yet been sent to re-enforce General Grant. They state, on the contrary, that a brigade of 5,000 or 6,000 men was received day before yesterday by General Butler. This is rather doubtful, in my opinion. General Gillmore may have received a few regiments, or parts of regiments, from his former department, but nothing more.

I have ordered a close watch to be kept along the James River of the movements of Butler's forces, in order to be informed as soon as practicable of any re-enforcements he may send to General Grant.

I inclose herewith an approximate statement of the effective force I now have in front of the enemy, recapitulated as follows: Infantry, 13,000; artillery, 850; cavalry, 680; total, 14,530.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Hancock's House, May 21, 1864.

An approximation of the troops immediately in front of the enemy:

Hoke's division:		
Clingman's brigade	1,800	
Hagood's brigade	1,800	
Colquitt's brigade	1,400	
Martin's brigade	2,000	
		7,000
Johnson's division:		
Johnson's brigade	500	
Ransom's brigade	1,800	
Walker's brigade	1,500	
Wise's brigade	2,200	
		6,000
Infantry		13,000
Read		300
Eshleman		350
Owen		200
Artillery		850
Three companies Sixty-second Georgia		150
Company Sixty-second Georgia		40
Baker		450
		640
Shingler (about)		40
Cavalry		680

RECAPITULATION.

Infantry	13,000
Artillery	850
Cavalry	680
Total	14,530

Respectfully forwarded to the Hon. J. A. Seddon, Secretary of War, for his information.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

[NOTE IN PENCIL.]—Enemy is supposed to have in our front about 25,000 men.

G. T. B.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *May* 21, 1864—7.30 [a. m.].
(Via Chester.)

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

All quiet last night. We remain in possession of enemy's rifle-pits and ground gained by yesterday's fight, which was quite severe during part of the day, especially near Ware Bottom Church. I regret to say General W. S. Walker is missing. It is feared he fell into the hands of the enemy whilst gallantly leading his troops into action. Will ascertain his fate immediately.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 21, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
Chester, Va.:

Special orders to you of April 22 and May 19 directed Baker's regiment of cavalry to move north of James River by this city. The President desires to know why the regiment has not been sent as directed. Great embarrassment has resulted for want of it.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *May* 21, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

By telegram of the 25th April from General Bragg, I was authorized to detain Baker's cavalry until expedition against New Berne was completed. His whole regiment has not yet arrived here. So soon as the remainder arrives from Petersburg, and it can be relieved by one of Dearing's regiments, it will be ordered forward. Orders for the remainder of it to be sent forward from Petersburg have already been issued. Special orders of the 19th May not yet received.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *May* 21, 1864.
(Via Chester, 1 p. m.)

General S. COOPER:

Excepting severe artillery fire from enemy on our new lines, all remains quiet. Order relative to Gracie's brigade is being carried out. General B. R. Johnson already commands a division. He highly distinguished himself at the battle of Drewry's Bluff.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 21, 1864.

Copy of telegram dated Hancock's House (via Chester), May 20, 1864, 6.15 p. m. (received May 20, 1864), viz:

We have driven back the enemy's line about a mile along the whole extent of his front, and have succeeded, after a severe struggle, in obtaining for ourselves the desired line. We have captured some prisoners. Firing ceased about an hour ago.

G. T. BEAUREGARD

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Hancock's House, May 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: In the organization of the troops, as ordered in paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 10, it is the desire of the commanding general that, in transferring the troops from one portion of the line to another, in order to bring the regiments of brigades together, and brigades of divisions together, the greatest caution should be used, and to this end the general directs that the movement be made by regiments at a time.

Colonel Harris, chief engineer, will indicate the center of the line, showing to what point the left of the right division will extend and to what point the right of the left division will extend.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HEADQUARTERS, *May* 21, 1864.

I. Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, at his own request, is relieved from the command of his division. In relieving General Hill the commanding general takes occasion to return to him his sincere thanks for the able, zealous, and patriotic manner in which he has discharged the onerous duties intrusted to him. General Hill will resume his position on the staff of the commanding general.

II. Major-General Hill having been relieved at his own request from the command of his division, the following organization of the forces is announced: Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke's division: Clingman's brigade, Hagood's brigade, Colquitt's brigade, Martin's brigade. Maj. Gen. B. R. Johnson's division: Johnson's brigade, Ransom's brigade, Walker's brigade, Wise's brigade.

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IV. The Fourth North Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Ferebee, having reported pursuant to instructions, will proceed at once to Finley's house and relieve the Third North Carolina Cavalry, which regiment, upon being relieved, will proceed, as ordered under date of April 22, 1864, from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office. Colonel Baker, Third North Carolina Cavalry, will furnish Colonel Ferebee with all the necessary information and instructions from these headquarters that may be deemed essential for guarding and protecting the left flank of the forces.

V. Col. William Butler, having reported at these headquarters in pursuance with orders from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, will report at once to Maj. Gen. B. R. Johnson, commanding division, for assignment to duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 21, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD, *Comdg., &c., Hancock's House:*

GENERAL: I beg leave respectfully to call your attention to a possible contingency by which the enemy may try to regain his lost ground. Could he not mask a movement by holding sufficient force on his lines and throwing across the river by pontoons a division strong enough to take Petersburg?

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 21, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD, *Comdg., &c., Hancock's House:*

GENERAL: I send you the telegrams* herewith. Every effort will be made to forward the gun on its arrival. I beg leave to call your attention to my note* of 19th about ammunition. General Dearing moved down last night to reconnoiter Fort Powhatan.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 21, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD, *Comdg., &c., Hancock's House:*

GENERAL: Your inquiry* of this date, relative to my report† of operations on the 16th and 17th, is received. The impression produced is correct as to my having received no information of the operations of our main force until too late for action, but not that I made no effort to obtain any. One of my first orders was to direct General Dearing to take the main body of his cavalry, leaving me only enough to watch my right and left, and open communication with you and report. While on the march to Walthall Junction, and engaged with the enemy about the time the fog lifted, I heard three or four reports of distant artillery, that was all. As soon as I had driven the enemy from Walthall Junction and formed my line of battle, I gave my aide, Captain Strong, a dispatch, which he sent by courier, informing you that I had occupied the Junction and was waiting to hear from you. Beyond me all continued quiet during the day, except my own engagements with the enemy. A dispatch from General Dearing, dated 1.30 p. m., informing me of his capture of prisoners, and inclosing one dated Fort Stevens, 9.15 a. m., reached me a few moments before the general himself joined me; entirely too late for me to have moved without going to attack in the dark. The last dispatch I received 7.45 p. m. This was dated 4.15 p. m., later than the other.

I could hear nothing to indicate an engagement all day. Either artillery was very little used or the wind was unfavorable. From 8.30 to near 10 I opened very briskly with my own guns, and again, between 3 and 5, as well as I recollect, firing with great rapidity to clear the enemy from the turnpike on my left.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

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*Not found.

†See Part II, p. 256.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 21, 1864.

General COLSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I would suggest that you direct Lieutenant-Colonel Guion, at Fort Clifton, to raise and strengthen "traverses" for protection against any distant fire from the opposite side as rapidly as possible—this is the quickest and best expedient.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS WISE'S BRIGADE,
May 21, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Capt. C. MCRAE SELPH,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General:

CAPTAIN: I beg to inform the major-general commanding that my men have been fighting and working, and are as much rest-broken as General Martin's; that two of my regiments, the Twenty-sixth and Thirty-fourth, have been in the front nearly as long; and that the Forty-sixth and Fifty-ninth have been working and fighting, day and night, for six days; and all four need relief as much as any regiments on the line; that to relieve Martin's brigade with my brigade is to relieve fatigued men with fatigued men, and there will be no relief in it. I have sent Captain Wise to inform you of this, and to request that Martin's three regiments and the Thirty-fourth Virginia of my brigade may be relieved by Colquitt's two regiments and the Twenty-fifth North Carolina and other regiments who have not been so much exposed and rest-broken. I will furnish the detail of 400 men as ordered, and this will make it impossible for me to do more than leave the Twenty-sixth where it is and with my remaining three regiments hold the right.

Very respectfully, &c.,

HENRY A. WISE,
Brigadier-General.

HANOVER JUNCTION, *May* 22, 1864—9.30 a. m.
(Received 10.20 [a. m.].)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

I have arrived at this place with the head of Ewell's corps. Longstreet is close up. Hill I expect to come in on my right but have not heard from him since I left him last night. I have learned as yet nothing of the movements of the enemy east of the Mattapony.

R. E. LEE,
General.

HANOVER JUNCTION, *May* 22, 1864.

Major-General ANDERSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Lee desires that you will place your troops in some good ground on this side of the Anna, where they can get rest

and refresh themselves. You will make every preparation to move at a moment's notice, and if necessary have rations cooked. The general wishes the men and horses to get all the rest they can.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES MARSHALL,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 22, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Major-General ANDERSON:

The general commanding directs me to say that he wishes you to keep well closed up with Ewell's corps. Send back and get up all stragglers, and see that the proper staff officers attend to the marching of the men and require them to keep with their commands, well closed up, &c. General Lee will go on with Ewell's corps.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MARYLAND LINE,
May 22, 1864—11 a. m.

Major JOHNSTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: Sheridan left Dabney's yesterday afternoon and went toward Old Church. Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee still at Hanover Court-House.

Your obedient servant,

BRADLEY T. JOHNSON,
Colonel, Commanding.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, VA., *May* 22, 1864—7 a. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Aide-de-Camp, on the lines:

GENERAL: Should it be preferable to delay the reorganization of the forces as ordered for one or two days until we shall have established definitely our line, you are authorized to so announce it to Generals Hoke and Johnson, in which event the present organization must remain as it is. Show this communication to those generals.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Petersburg, May 22, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
Commanding, &c., Hancock's House:

GENERAL: Having a large amount of very important work to attend to at Wilmington, where my presence is required, I shall proceed there to-day, having been relieved from the temporary command of the department at my own request. Under the circum-

stances I can be of but little service here, nor is it as important for me specially to remain in this district as for me to complete as rapidly as can be the defenses of Wilmington, suspended for the most part during my absence for the past ten days. Leaving there so suddenly, and with the expectation of returning in forty-eight hours as I did, it becomes the more necessary that I should resume my place as soon as possible. When I shall have laid out all that is necessary to be done there, if you do not join in the censure to which I am now unfortunately subject here, I will be glad if you will call me to your side.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[WILMINGTON, N. C.,] *May* 22, 1864—11 p. m.

Maj. J. W. MOORE,
Kenansville (via Magnolia):

If the raid you announce in Onslow County is found to be directed on the railroad and is serious, you will direct any passing troops to stop temporarily to meet it. You will report at once and often, giving hour of your telegrams. Sixth Florida Battalion left at 10.30 this p. m. Captain Morris has been ordered to move from Snead's Ferry toward Richlands to operate and communicate with you. Report at once and do not stop troops except on certainty.

LOUIS HEBERT,
Brigadier-General.

HANOVER JUNCTION, *May* 23, 1864—10 p. m.
(Received 4.50 a. m. 24th.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

About noon to-day the enemy approached the Telegraph bridge over the North Anna. In the afternoon he attacked the guard at the bridge and drove it to this side. About the same time the Fifth Corps (General Warren) crossed at Jericho Ford, on our left. Was attacked by A. P. Hill and his advance checked.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 119. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, May* 23, 1864.

* * * * * * *

VII. Capt. W. D. Stuart, Corps of Engineers, Provisional Army, C. S., will proceed at once to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty, with his chief engineer.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 23, 1864.

It has been reported that in many instances of late wanton destruction of private property has been committed where wagons are camped. This is in direct violation of existing orders; but as there has been difficulty in tracing the blame to those who are culpable, it is ordered that in future whenever rails or crops are destroyed, or any such wanton damage is committed in the immediate vicinity of a wagon camp, the officer in charge of the train will be held responsible, whether the injury is inflicted by persons connected with the wagons, or by cooking details, or stragglers, whilst the train occupied the locality in question.

By command of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 23, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Major-General ANDERSON:

The general commanding directs that you have the wagons of your corps packed and everything in readiness by daybreak to-morrow to move in any direction.

Most respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HANOVER COURT-HOUSE, *May* 23, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: There is a ford 2 miles above the one where the stage road crosses, and another 2 miles below. I have all these picketed, and my troops in best position the country allows. I have no cavalry. No enemy has appeared in my front. I inclose a note* from citizens, just received.

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Major-General.

CHESTER, *May* 23, 1864.

General BRAGG:

All quiet last night and this morning. We are increasing strength of our lines and batteries. Signal corps scouts from Old Point report very large number of wounded at Fort Monroe, also twelve large guns sent on 19th instant to Butler, and since 12th instant he has been re-enforced by 5,000 men. If this be true, he may retake the offensive soon. Then I shall require assistance.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

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*Not found.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 23, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Col. W. H. STEVENS,
Engineers, Richmond:

The iron-clad Fredericksburg has just passed through the obstructions without apparent difficulty.

C. T. MASON,
Captain, Engineers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 11. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA., *May* 23, 1864.

I. Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, aide-de-camp, is hereby placed in charge of the lines in front of the enemy, under special instructions from the commanding general, and orders issued by him, in the name of the commanding general, will be obeyed and respected accordingly. General Hill will see that the lines are properly occupied, supported, and guarded, and that due watchfulness is observed at all times along the whole lines, especially at night.

II. Hereafter flags of truce will only be conducted by brigade or division commanders. In no instance will flags of truce be permitted for the mere exchange of papers, and division commanders will see that these orders are strictly complied with. No communication whatever will be permitted between our pickets and sharpshooters and those of the enemy.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

TAYLORSVILLE, *May* 24, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

The enemy has been making feeble attacks upon our lines to-day, probably with a view of ascertaining our position. They were easily repulsed. General Mahone drove three regiments across the river, capturing a stand of colors and some prisoners, among them 1 aide-de-camp of General Ledlie.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 120. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, May* 24, 1864.

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VI. Capt. John J. Middleton, assistant quartermaster, is relieved from duty with the Fifteenth Regiment South Carolina Volunteers, and will report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty as chief quarermaster of the artillery of the First Corps, Army of Northern Virginia.

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XI. Brig. Gen. William M. Gardner, Provisional Army, C. S., will report without delay to this office for assignment to duty.

XII. Col. J. B. Walton is relieved from inspection duty, and will report in person to General R. E. Lee for artillery service in Army of Northern Virginia.

* * * * * * *

XXII. Maj. L. R. Page, assistant adjutant-general, will proceed without delay to Danville, Va., and make a thorough inspection of the various Government departments at that place. He will make a report of his inspection to the Adjutant and Inspector General.

* * * * * * *

XXIV. Maj. Charles A. Snowden, quartermaster, &c., is relieved from duty in the Department of Richmond, and will report to Maj. Gen. A. Elzey, commanding, &c., Staunton, Va., for assignment.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR ATLEE'S, *May* 24, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General R. H. ANDERSON:

I have just received your note of 5 p. m. I am glad you have discovered the road intersecting that between Haw's Shop and Atlee's. Place a picket on it to give you notice, as well as for your safety. If you find the enemy moving on it, strike at him. I have sent Breckinridge on the direct road from Atlee's to Haw's Shop. Do everything for the grand object, the destruction of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 24, 1864.

Col. A. L. RIVES,
Acting Chief, Engineer Bureau:

The last of the iron-clads passed the obstructions at 4 p. m. The Virginia just after struck tide.

CHAS. T. MASON,
Captain, Engineers.

[WILMINGTON, N. C.,] *May* 24, 1864.

Major MOORE,
Commanding, &c., Kenansville:

Reliable scouts report the enemy at Peletier's Mills, under Colonel Ripley, on a raid, said to be intended for Richlands. Communicate this to Captain Morris, at Richlands or elsewhere, and inform him that Captain Beazley marched from here yesterday morning by Holly Shelter road to join him. These two, judiciously managed, might turn the raid back.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, May 24, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War:*

SIR: Your letter of the 20th instant, in reply to mine of the 19th instant, upon the subject of making a passage through the obstructions in the James River, has been received. My object was to place the action of this Department upon this subject in a clear and correct light, and not to complain of the action of others. I believe that your views upon this subject corresponded with my own, and you promptly referred my letter to you of the 10th of April, 1863, to the Engineer Bureau for a full report, and that report was against my proposition. I have just read a report of Colonel Stevens of the 20th instant upon this subject, together with a letter from Colonel Rives of the 21st instant, in which he refers to letters of Colonel Gilmer of the 14th and 20th of April, 1863, and to his own previous letter of September 10, 1862. These papers are now brought to my attention for the first time, and as they refer specially to the action of this Department and to that of the Engineer Bureau, I deem it proper to place this statement on file.

Upon the completion of the iron-clad steamer Richmond, I deemed it important to the river defenses that she should be at liberty to pass and repass the obstructions. The work of making a practicable passage was not difficult; a position below them, under the guns of Drewry's and Chaffin's, would have been safe, and by holding a vessel or caisson ready to sink in the gap at any moment, the passage could have been rendered secure. I applied to General Randolph, Secretary of War, in September, 1862, to have such passage made. He referred the subject, as I learn from Colonel Rives' letter, to the Engineer Bureau, and it was not done.

On the 10th of April, 1863, I wrote to you the following letter repeating my views:

> I have the honor to request that the James River obstructions be opened at the earliest practicable moment to permit the Richmond to pass below them. I deem it very important that our armored vessels in the river should be able to pass the barrier at any time; and I respectfully suggest that this be provided for. The large schooner Gallego may perhaps be used in connection with this measure.

To this application I received no response; and I now learn for the first time from Colonel Rives' letter that my communication was referred to the Engineer Bureau, and that Colonel Gilmer referred it to Colonel Stevens for a report, which was made. I also learn for the first time that Colonel Gilmer, on the 20th of April, 1863, reported against my proposition, and the following is a part of his report:

> In conclusion, considering the fact that there are two bars in James River between Drewry's Bluff and City Point, over which the Richmond can pass only in time of freshets, and further that her machinery and speed are so defective, I most respectfully but earnestly represent that it will be judicious to make an opening in the James River obstructions, only when a second iron-clad is on the eve of completion.

I regret that the several reports of these officers and the action of the Engineer Bureau were not communicated to me, and that I now learn them for the first time. It was certainly due to this Department and to the public interests that I should have been so informed. I am not aware of the grounds upon which Colonel Gilmer pronounced the machinery (the engine I presume he meant) of the Richmond "defective." It is not so regarded by the engineer-in-chief of the navy, who is familiar with it, and no defects have been reported. The engine is too small for the vessel, and her speed is

consequently but 4 miles an hour, a speed, however, which is understood to be but little, if any, inferior to the enemy's monitors. Had this vessel been below the obstructions the enemy could not have sounded and dragged the river with his row-boats, followed by his wooden gun-boats, and have captured our submarine batteries, rendering our labors for two years in this work abortive. The Richmond would have kept them back and compelled him to bring forward his iron-clads, when our torpedoes would have been available for what they were designed.

My next application to have the obstructions opened was on the 2d of January last, as follows :

I have the honor to request that orders may be given to the engineer officers in charge of the construction of the obstructions in the James River to open those at Drewry's Bluff sufficiently to permit the passage of the iron-clads Richmond and Fredericksburg. I deem it highly important to the defenses of the river that these vessels should be below the obstructions. I beg leave to suggest for your consideration the expediency of constructing a suitable caisson to hold in readiness to be sunk in the space made for these vessels, and which can be made by the time the obstructions are removed.

To this I received no response until the 3d of March last, when Colonel Stevens addressed me the following letter, dated February 29, 1864 :

I have the honor to state that a copy of your letter of date January 2, 1864, to the Secretary of War has been sent to me by General Bragg. I shall commence at once to open the obstructions upon the receipt of information when the gun-boats will be ready to move. I respectfully inquire if I can have a caisson built at the navy-yard?

To this I returned the following reply, dated March 10, 1864 :

An earlier reply to your letters of the 29th ultimo, which was received by me on the 3d instant, has been delayed by the want of information as to the ability of the Tredegar Works to furnish certain iron plating. I am now advised by the constructor that the Virginia will be ready to pass the obstructions in six weeks.

In reference to your inquiry as to the building of a caisson at the navy-yard here, the chief constructor states that we "cannot conveniently build a caisson at the navy-yard just now ; our saw-mill is down, undergoing repairs, and we have furnished a large amount of timber to rebuild the boat bridges. The gun-carriage maker will require one month from date to complete the carriages of the Fredericksburg."

The Richmond had long been ready to pass the barrier and to fight, and I desired her to go below at once, and the Fredericksburg was completed and required only her guns to be placed on board. The Virginia was incomplete, and there was in my judgment reason for opening the barrier as early as possible. With regard to the report of Colonel Stevens of a conversation held with me as to the time of completing the Virginia, I have only to say that neither in that nor in any other conversation have I ever acquiesced in any delay in opening the obstructions, and that I have earnestly and repeatedly sought to have them removed is, I trust, evident from my action upon the subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy.

OFFICE ASST. INSP. GEN., HORSE ARTILLERY BATT.,
May 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. N. PENDLETON, *Commanding Artillery :*

GENERAL : I have the honor to report that, in obedience to your order, I have inspected the horses of the batteries of horse artillery

serving with Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee, viz: Johnston's and Shoemaker's batteries—seven pieces. These batteries have lost heavily in killed and wounded horses in the operations against Sheridan, and the horses are in very bad condition. In Johnston's battery 28 have been killed, or wounded so badly as to make it necessary to abandon them; 5 others wounded are with the battery. Of the other horses 6 are in very bad order, with painful galls on back and neck, and greatly broken down. Two of the gun-carriages have only 5 horses apiece and two others only 4 apiece. Shoemaker's battery is in worse order still; 16 of the horses are covered with sores, and so much broken down by heavy marches as to be unfit for active service. In this battery 4 have been killed, 6 wounded and abandoned, 2 broken down and left on the road, and 2 strayed or stolen. Thirty horses are needed to put this battery in efficient condition. Three mules in ordnance wagons are broken down and unfit for service.

The order directed an inspection to ascertain the number of horses unable to "work in harness." The horses reported are in such an exhausted condition that they are unfit for severe marching or rapid movement, but are still worked in harness. Under these circumstances, I have not directed them to be turned in. A few days of rest would make some of them efficient again. Others are totally unfit for service as horse artillery horses.

Recapitulation.

Johnston's battery:		
Horses killed. or wounded and abandoned	28	
Wounded slightly	5	
Sore-backed and broken down	6	
Total (cannoneers and gun horses) deficit		39
Shoemaker's battery:		
Killed, or wounded and abanboned	10	
Broken down and left	2	
Strayed or stolen	2	
Sore-backed and broken down	16	
Total		30
Thomson's battery: Killed, or wounded and abandoned		16
Hart's battery (1 piece inspected): Sore-backed and broken down		2
McGregor's battery:		
Killed, or wounded and abandoned	7	
Sore-backed and broken down	5	
		12
Aggregate		99

Many of the cannoneers have been dismounted to supply the teams. One hundred fresh horses is the least number with which the batteries will be able to perform efficient service.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. ESTEN COOKE,
Captain and Assistant Inspector-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 121. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, May* 25, 1864.

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XVIII. The Fourth Regiment South Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Rutledge commanding and the Twentieth Battalion, Georgia Cav-

alry, Lieutenant-Colonel Millen commanding, will proceed with the greatest possible expedition by highway to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, for assignment.

XIX. The corps of cadets Virginia Military Institute will report to Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, commanding, &c.

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XXII. Brig. Gen. John H. Winder will report to General G. T. Beauregard for assignment to the Second District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, with headquarters at Goldsborough, N. C.

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XXIX. The Sixth Battalion Florida Volunteers, Maj. P. B. Bird commanding, will immediately proceed by railroad to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, for assignment to duty.

XXX. Col. W. B. Wade, Eighth Confederate Regiment, is relieved from further duty at the High Bridge.

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XXXIII. The general commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida will relieve Maj. George W. Melton, quartermaster, now serving with Brigadier-General Robertson. Major Melton on being relieved will proceed without delay to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia and report to General R. E. Lee for assignment on the staff of Brig. Gen. M. C. Butler.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: General Lee bids me say in reply to your note of 5.30 a. m. that he wishes you to move up and take position on General Gordon's right. General Smith, of the Engineers, has been instructed to examine the ground and aid you in selecting the best line.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, May 25, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: Inclosed I send a copy of a dispatch from Major-General Jones, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Brig. Gen. James Chesnut should be called on to send immediately to Charleston two or three regiments of Reserves.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Inclosure.]

CHARLESTON, *May* 23, 1864.

General BRAGG:

Brigadier-General Finegan, with two battalions, 600 strong, of his brigade, left here to-day about 12 o'clock for Richmond. The enemy has renewed his demonstrations on James Island—is firing rapidly. I shall retain the Twentieth South Carolina Regiment until to-morrow. It is very important that I should have a few more troops. Can I get any?

SAM. JONES,
Major-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 25, 1864.

J. D. POTTS, *Richmond Signal Office:*

W. H. Stevens, colonel Engineers, had to send to pontoon bridge for the Seaboard. She is in Richmond.

C. T. MASON,
Captain, Engineers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 12. HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA., *May* 25, 1864.

I. Col. William Butler is relieved from duty with Maj. Gen. B. R. Johnson, and will report at once to Brigadier-General Colston, at Petersburg, for the command of the sub-district between Swift Creek and Appomattox River. Colonel Butler's attention is called particularly to the defense of Lovell's Ford, across Swift Creek, and Fort Clifton, or the works in its immediate vicinity. Before reporting to General Colston, Colonel Butler will obtain all the information practicable, relative to the defense of his sub-district, from Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill.

II. Colonel Ferebee, Fourth North Carolina Cavalry, after leaving two companies, or about 100 men, under a competent officer, with orders for them to report to General Johnson, commanding left wing, will proceed with the rest of his command to the right of our lines and report to Major-General Hoke, for the purpose of guarding the right flank and the country between Bake-House and Swift Creeks. On Colonel Ferebee reporting to General Hoke, the regiment of Colonel Griffin (Sixty-second Georgia Cavalry) will be relieved, and will report to Brigadier-General Dearing, commanding cavalry brigade, at or near Petersburg. Colonel Griffin will order one company to report to these headquarters. The two companies (or 100 men) of the Fourth North Carolina remaining on the left will report to General Johnson, to guard and protect the country from Johnson's left to Drewry's Bluff.

III. The general officer of the day upon being relieved will report daily to General D. H. Hill, in writing, the condition of the lines, the movements of the enemy, and everything else that deserves special and immediate attention.

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By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *May* 25, 1864.

General BRAGG,
Richmond, Va.:

First and Second Florida Battalions went on from here last night. General Finegan goes this morning. Fourth Florida and Bonaud's battalion are on the way here.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

TAYLORSVILLE, *May* 26, 1864.
(Received 8.30.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

The enemy has made no demonstration against our position to-day. From present indications he seems to contemplate a movement on our left flank. It is reported that the Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Potomac Railroad has been repaired and that a train of cars has arrived at Milford. A column of infantry is said to have moved from the White House, by Beulah Church, toward Chesterfield, supposed to be dismounted men of General Sheridan's command. Transports, loaded with supplies, were at Tappahannock yesterday. The supplies are landed at Port Royal. The enemy's superiority in cavalry will, I fear, enable him to do us much injury. General Sheridan's command has rejoined General Grant. I hope that all the cavalry designed for this army may be sent to it at once. I can place General Young, if sent to me, in command of Gordon's brigade until his own brigade is organized.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: From the report of the enemy advancing his pickets, protected by fascines, in front of General Kershaw, General Lee thinks an attack on that part of our line may be intended. He desires you to be on the alert and be ready to meet it if made. He has written to General Ewell to furnish a reserve from one of his divisions not now opposed to the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES MARSHALL,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 26, 1864—11 a. m.

General ANDERSON:

I just now sent you a note directing that you advance your skirmishers to ascertain what was in your front. Since then your note of 10.15 has been received. The general says that if you are satisfied the enemy is still in force before you it will be useless to advance the skirmish line.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA.,
No. 13. } *May* 26, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. John H. Winder, having reported pursuant to paragraph XXII, Special Orders, No. 121, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, is assigned to the command of the Second District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. Commanding officers in said district will report through General Winder, whose headquarters will be established at Goldsborough.

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By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 26, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Aide-de-Camp, &c., on the lines:

GENERAL: Your note of to-day is received. Please put the hour on your communications. Colonel Harris will attend to your remarks about the obstructions in the rifle-pits; his attention had already been called to them. With regard to a point for the exchange of flags of truce, it cannot be done now, for none can be sent to or received from General Butler; but officers bearing flags from the enemy should be stopped at proper distance, and then made to turn their backs to our lines. I have ordered some troops from Hoke's, Johnson's, and Colston's to the protection of our right flank against the enemy's expedition of this morning.

Respectfully, &c.,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS HOKE'S DIVISION,
May 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report:

On account of some mistake no work was done last night on the salient in front of Ashbrooke's house. The details for to-night have already reported, and Captain Stuart will doubtless make satisfactory progress hereafter. A detail of 500 men reports daily to Captain Patterson, and he is getting along as rapidly, perhaps, as he can with the force at his disposal. General Hagood's pioneer corps is engaged in widening the trenches in the rear of his line of breastworks, and in removing all obstructions therefrom. General Clingman's men, with a limited supply of tools, are engaged in the same work. As Generals Martin and Colquitt are only occupying a temporary line, they have not been required by me, in accordance with instructions received from Major-General Hoke, to widen their trenches. The enemy has been shelling more than usual to-day, but I have heard of no casualties from it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. RICHARDSON,
Assistant Inspector-General.

PETERSBURG, *May* 26, 1864.

General COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

I have arrived here with the First and Second Florida Battalions, and detained by Brigadier-General Colston in consequence of the movement of the enemy near this place. Will leave for Richmond as soon as relieved.

JOS. FINEGAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Brigade.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *May* 26, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICERS,
Kenansville, Kinston, and Weldon:

By direction of General Bragg you will, by direction of the commanding general, stop all troops who may be passing you, providing, at the time of their passing, you have truly authentic information of the advance of raiders.

J. H. HILL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

TAYLORSVILLE, *May* 27, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON:

The enemy retired to the north side of the North Anna last night. A portion of his force is still visible on the north bank, but cavalry and infantry have crossed at Hanovertown. I have sent the cavalry in that direction to check the movement, and will move the army to Ashland.

R. E. LEE.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 27, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Ashland:

The following dispatch just received from General Imboden:

2 P. M.

General Hunter commands the forces advancing upon me. He occupied Mount Jackson at noon to-day; his cavalry outnumbers me two to one; his infantry four to one; his artillery four to one; he is moving on my flank, and will compel me to fall back. There is no point this side of Mount Crawford where I can successfully resist him, and there it is very doubtful, though I will do my best.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

MAY 27, 1864.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: I have given your order to General Ewell. Just as I arrived General Pendleton came in and reported that he had seen the whole body of the enemy that was visible on the opposite side of the river to our right of the railroad move off obliquely by their right flank toward the Telegraph road. He says that he is certain that they were moving in that direction to get on a road in the rear

out of view, and follow the rest of the army to the Pamunkey. General Kershaw informed General Pendleton that there was still a considerable force opposite his position, to our left of the Telegraph road and across the river. No movement had been observed in this body at the time General P. left. General Anderson is now there observing whatever may occur. General Pendleton has ordered a battery down to open on the troops first mentioned. Major McClellan has gone down to the river to see what he can, and will report to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES MARSHALL,
Aide-de-Camp.

[First indorsement.]

MAY 27, 1864.

GENERAL: The within has just been sent me by Colonel Marshall. If it is necessary to retain a portion of the troops to watch the enemy, put the rest in motion toward Ashland. Breckinridge could precede, then your corps, and finally Anderson.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

Major-General ANDERSON:

GENERAL: General Pendleton has seen this note. My note was written upon the first report of the movement to which it refers. You have the latest information and can best decide whether all the troops can be safely withdrawn or not. It would seem that a strong rear guard ought to make it safe.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. MARSHALL,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 27, 1864—4.20 a. m.

General ANDERSON:

GENERAL: General Lee wishes you to ascertain what is in your front, and if you discover that the enemy is leaving you to be prepared to move your command promptly to the south side of the South Anna River.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 27, 1864—3 p. m.

General ANDERSON:

GENERAL: General Lee wishes you to move without halting, as previously instructed, to Half Sink or its vicinity, anywhere near Atlee's Station where you can obtain good water. General Early, Second Corps, will be near Totopotomoy and General Hill will be in the same neighborhood west of you. Keep General Lee advised of your progress and communicate with Generals Early and Hill. See that your brigade advance [*sic*] trains are within reach of the troops. Keep your command well closed up.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Jenkins' House, near Hughes' Shop,
May 27, 1864—7.30 p. m.

[General ANDERSON:]

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to inform you that he will stop for the night at the above place. He wishes you to have your troops made as comfortable as possible for the night, and to move at 3 o'clock in the morning for Atlee's Station. General Ewell's corps is now near Hughes' Shop and will move at the same hour in the same direction. The object of the general is to get possession of the ridge between Totopotomoy and Beaver Dam Creek, upon which stands Pole Green Church. You will give General Pickett all necessary instructions to join you in the morning. General Ewell's corps is just east of you and General Hill west of Pickett.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON, *Commanding Corps:*

GENERAL: General Lee bids me send the within route* suggested for the march of your troops. Pickett's division being so far up he thinks had better march with A. P. Hill's corps, and he desires when you send orders to Pickett to be prepared to move, to instruct him to move with A. P. Hill's corps and to communicate with General Hill at once.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS EARLY'S DIVISION,
May 27, 1864.

Major-General ANDERSON, *Commanding Corps:*

GENERAL: The right of the Second Corps is encamped about 3 miles from Atlee's and extends to the left toward Merry Oaks. I picket the road to Atlee's and Merry Oaks, and also have placed a picket on the road to the Half Sink. My headquarters are at Hughes' Cross-Roads, General Ewell's are at Satterwhite's, very near mine.

I am, general, very respectfully,

J. A. EARLY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Lee bids me say that he desires you to be in readiness to move at once with your troops. He wishes you to follow the route laid down by General Anderson's corps when the order for marching is given. This route is for troops over Fredericksburg railroad bridges on Little River and South Anna, for trains

* Not found; but see Venable to Breckinridge, 7.30 p. m., *post.*

over the Little River bridge west of Taylorsville, and over Ellett's Bridge, on South Anna. A special order for Col. Bradley Johnson's regiment accompanies this.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 27, 1864—7 a. m.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

GENERAL: The general commanding decides that it is not necessary to send Colonel Johnson's infantry ahead of the other troops. Let his command move with your own. They could accomplish nothing by themselves.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 27, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Lee bids me say that he wishes you to proceed after General Anderson, who will camp on a stream on this side of Haw's Shop on the road to Atlee's Station. General Anderson has instructions to move for Atlee's at 3 o'clock in the morning, and General Lee desires you to adapt your movements to his. General Lee's headquarters are at Jenkins' houses, near where you turn off to the left from Telegraph road to Haw's Shop. As there is good water in Stony Creek just where Anderson's line of march turns off from the Telegraph road, General Lee thinks it best for you to camp at the intersection of these roads and make your troops comfortable for the night, and to communicate to him the position of your headquarters and condition of your troops.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Lee has notified General Anderson that your command will follow the route of this corps. Our leading division (Field's) is now under orders to draw out and move down the Fredericksburg railroad. Kershaw moves next, and you will please follow him. I presume that the route to be taken by your trains has been already indicated to you.

Very respectfully,

G. M. SORREL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ROUTE B.—Troops by Fredericksburg railroad bridge over Little River and South Anna. Trains by bridge over Little River west of Taylorsville and Fredericksburg railroad, and thence by Ellett's Bridge over South Anna.

N. B.—Route C carries trains of Second Corps also over Ellett's Bridge, on South Anna.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
May 27, 1864.

Major-General BRECKINRIDGE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Lee has indicated his desire that your command should precede the corps back of the South Anna instead of following it as previously arranged. General Anderson, therefore, requests that you will at once draw out and move down the Fredericksburg railroad. I inclose a memorandum of the route marked out.

Very respectfully,

G. M. SORREL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

ROUTE B.—Troops over Little River and South Anna River by the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad bridges. Trains over Little River by a bridge west of Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad and over South Anna by Ellett's Bridge. This last bridge will have to be used also by trains of Ewell's corps. Breckinridge follows General Anderson's corps, and Pickett goes with Hill.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 123. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, May 27*, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. On the application of Brig. Gen. S. M. Barton a court of inquiry is hereby ordered to convene in this city on the 7th proximo, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to inquire into certain allegations as to the conduct of Brig. Gen. S. M. Barton on the 10th instant made by Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr.

Detail for the Court: Maj. Gen. John P. McCown, Brig. Gen. A. G. Blanchard, Maj. Gen. W. M. Gardner, Maj. L. R. Page, assistant adjutant-general, judge-advocate.

The Court will report fully the facts, and will express its opinion on the merits of the case.

III. Capt. L. S. Marye, ordnance corps, is relieved from duty as chief ordnance officer of Department of Richmond, and will report to Lieut. Col. J. C. Pemberton, commanding, &c., as his assistant for artillery and ordnance duty.

IV. Lieut. E. A. Thorne, acting ordnance officer, will report to Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., for assignment to duty as chief ordnance officer of the Department of Richmond.

V. Capt. Thomas M. Barker, assistant quartermaster, will relieve Maj. George W. Melton, quartermaster, &c., of Brig. Gen. B. H. Robertson's brigade.

* * * * * * *

XI. Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., commanding, &c., will cause an investigation to be made concerning the occupancy of the depot and yard of the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company in this city by a detachment of troops on the 21st instant; also concerning the alleged harsh treatment received by a negro employé of said company at the hands of said troops. A report of the facts of the case will be made to this office.

* * * * * * *

XIII. Maj. Robert Strange, aide-de camp, Provisional Army, C. S., will proceed to make an inspection of the bridges and guard on the railroad between this city and Wilmington, N. C. He will receive special instructions from General B. Bragg.

* * * * * * *

XVI. Brig. Gen. P. M. B. Young, Provisional Army, C. S., will immediately proceed with the cavalry under his command, belonging to the Army of Northern Virginia, to Hanover Junction, Va., and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment.

XVII. The depots and yards of railroad companies will not be occupied by troops nor be in any manner interfered with by them.

* * * * * * *

XXVI. Maj. W. F. Foster, Engineer Corps, Provisional Army, C. S., will proceed without delay to Dublin Depot, Va., and report to Brig. Gen. W. E. Jones, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty.

* * * * * * *

XXXIV. Colonel Shingler, senior officer of the Holcombe Legion, will assume command of the infantry regiment of that legion. The cavalry battalion of the Legion will be under the command of the next ranking officer present for duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Hancock's House, May 27, 1864.

General S. COOPER, *Adjt. and Insp. Gen., Richmond, Va.:*

Having noticed that my telegram of May 22, 3.30 p. m., has been incorrectly printed by the public press, I have the honor to inclose official copy of the original for record.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

NEAR CHESTER, VA., *May* [22], 1864—3.30 p. m.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

It has just been ascertained by flag of truce that General Walker accidentally rode into enemy's lines during fight of 20th instant, refused to surrender, and was fired upon, when his horse was killed and he was severely wounded in the foot, which required amputation. He is doing well.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *May* 27, 1864.

General BRAGG:

General Dearing reports.

Have just returned from extreme right of my line, which rests on Appomattox River. Enemy have been engaged in striking tents all morning between 8 and 10; also saw wagons moving; direction taken was apparently down the Appomattox.

Number of tents on south side of Appomattox greater than yesterday. Lieutenant Cannon, Fort Clifton, reports enemy have struck large portion of their tents. Behind their intrenchments their forces are moving off toward the front.

12 M.

In explanation of above, Major Milligan says Lieutenant Cannon means toward Dunn's Mill—the enemy's front from Cobb's on that line looking from signal station at Clifton.

General Colquitt says, 12 m. : Yankees, I think, are moving off. Tents are being struck. Camps in commotion. Infantry discovered moving to our left ; cavalry toward our right.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
Hancock's House, May 27, 1864—9 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG :

Yesterday enemy made strong demonstration on right flank. To-day indications are that he is meditating either to attack or retire ; if latter, he will leave a force to guard his strong line of works, extending from James River to Appomattox, which he is still laboriously strengthening.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS HOKE'S DIVISION,
May 27, 1864.

General D. H. HILL :

GENERAL : In compliance with orders from department headquarters of this date, I have the honor to furnish the following roster of brigade commanders and colonels of regiments in my division :

Colquitt's brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. A. H. Colquitt—Twenty-third Georgia Regiment, commanded by Major Ballenger ; no colonel. Sixth Georgia Regiment, commanded by Col. John T. Lofton ; September 17, 1862, date from which he ranks. Nineteenth Georgia Regiment, commanded by Col. J. H. Neal ; August 20, date from which he ranks ; he was on duty yesterday as general officer of the day. Twenty-seventh Georgia Regiment, commanded by Col. C. T. Zachry ; he ranks from September 17, 1862, and was on duty as general officer of day 23d instant. Twenty-eighth Georgia Regiment, Col. Tully Graybill ; he ranks from November 3, 1862, and is now sick in camp.

Martin's brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. J. G. Martin—Seventeenth North Carolina Regiment, commanded by Col. W. F. Martin ; Sixty-sixth North Carolina Regiment, commanded by Col. A. D. Moore ; Forty-second North Carolina Regiment, commanded by Lieut. Col. C. W. Bradshaw. No general officer of the day has been detailed from this brigade.

Hagood's brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. J. Hagood—Col. F. H. Gantt, date of rank November 27, 1862 ; Col. P. C. Gaillard, date of rank October 2, 1863 ; Lieut. Col. P. H. Nelson, date of rank July 10, 1862 ; Maj. G. W. McIver, date of rank January 25, 1862 ; Maj. John V. Glover, date of rank July 22, 1862.

Clingman's brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. T. L. Clingman—Col. James D. Radcliffe, commanding Sixty-first North Carolina Regiment ; Col. H. McKethan, commanding Fifty-first North Caro-

lina Regiment; Lieut. Col. J. R. Murchison, commanding Eighth North Carolina Regiment; Lieut. Col. C. W. Knight, commanding Thirty-first North Carolina Regiment. Colonel Radcliffe has been on duty once as general officer of the day

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

[RICHMOND,] *May* 27, 1864.

Capt. C. T. MASON:

Can you have Colonel Talcott informed that the Secretary of War has ordered the engineer troops, except the pontoon companies, to proceed to the Danville road via Richmond? The orders will be sent on the train which will bring the regiment up.

A. L. RIVES,
Colonel and Acting Chief Engineer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Allee's, May 28, 1864—6 p. m.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: The army is in front of this position extending toward Totopotomoy Creek. As far as I can ascertain none of the enemy have advanced south of that creek. I believe that he is assembling his army behind it. General Fitzhugh Lee's division of cavalry engaged the enemy's cavalry near Haw's Shop about noon to-day and drove them back upon their infantry, which prisoners stated to be the Fifth and Sixth Corps. I have not, however, received very definite information as yet either as regards their positions or numbers.

I am, with respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 133. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 28, 1864.

The troops under Brigadier-General Finegan and Perry's brigade are temporarily united for service under General Finegan, and will constitute a part of Anderson's division, Hill's corps.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PICKETT'S DIVISION,
Rose Cottage, May 28, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Col. G. M. SORREL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report my arrival at this point, the men much worn for want of food, although but little straggling. But in accordance with the suggestion of the major-general commanding I have halted here to wait for rations. In fact it is compulsory. It will be midnight, if not daylight, before we can get

anything to eat. The men are calling loudly for bread. I have sent 3 couriers and 2 staff officers back. We must get something, or the division will be worse than useless.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. E. PICKETT,
Major-General.

ON ROAD NEAR ATLEE'S,
May 28, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General BRECKINRIDGE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Early is near Pole Green Church, in line of battle. Anderson is well closed up in his rear. Early wrote from Hundley's at 8 a. m. Keep your troops well closed up on Anderson. The troops ahead of you marched at times alongside of the wagons. You might expedite your march by pursuing the same course. General Hill is following you.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ATLEE'S, *May* 28, 1864—5 p. m.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

GENERAL: I wish you would place your troops on the road from this place to Haw's Shop (or Salem Church), to guard that road. The enemy is at Haw's Shop, and may take our troops in reverse. After crossing the Hanover Court-House and Mechanicsville road, about three-fourths of a mile, you reach a road leading to Mrs. Tinsley's, and running parallel to the Hanover Court-House road. Opposite Mrs. Tinsley's gate, there is Mrs. Hill. On either side I understand you can obtain water. Send forward officers to explore.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 124. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, May 28, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XXI. Lieut. Gen T. H. Holmes will take immediate command of reserve forces of the State of North Carolina. He will complete their organization, and place them at once into service. To this end he is authorized to employ all enrolling officers, who are hereby directed to obey his instructions. He will establish his headquarters at such point as he may deem best. Officers of the quartermaster's, commissary, ordnance, and medical departments are required to furnish all necessary facilities. All officers from the State of North Carolina, of the Invalid Corps, and such of the regular forces as are for any reasons unassigned, will immediately report to Lieutenant-General Holmes, who is authorized to assign them temporarily with the Reserves.

XXII. All the companies raised in the State of North Carolina for local defense and special service will report for orders to Lieut. Gen. T. H. Holmes, commanding reserve forces of North Carolina, at Raleigh.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PETERSBURG, VA., *May* 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. Whiting having referred to me that portion of Brig. Gen. H. A. Wise's report of his operations on the 16th instant wherein it is stated that General Whiting was drunk, I hereby state, on my honor as an officer, that I was with General Whiting from the time of his arrival in Petersburg and during the day in question, and that he did not drink any spirituous liquor whatever; that I was present at his interview with General Wise on the night of the 16th instant and know that he was perfectly sober.

W. C. STRONG,
Aide-de-Camp.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 28, 1864.

J. F. CALDWELL,
Superintendent C. S. Military Telegraph Lines:

Seven hundred feet will cross the river. By using piles 600 might do.

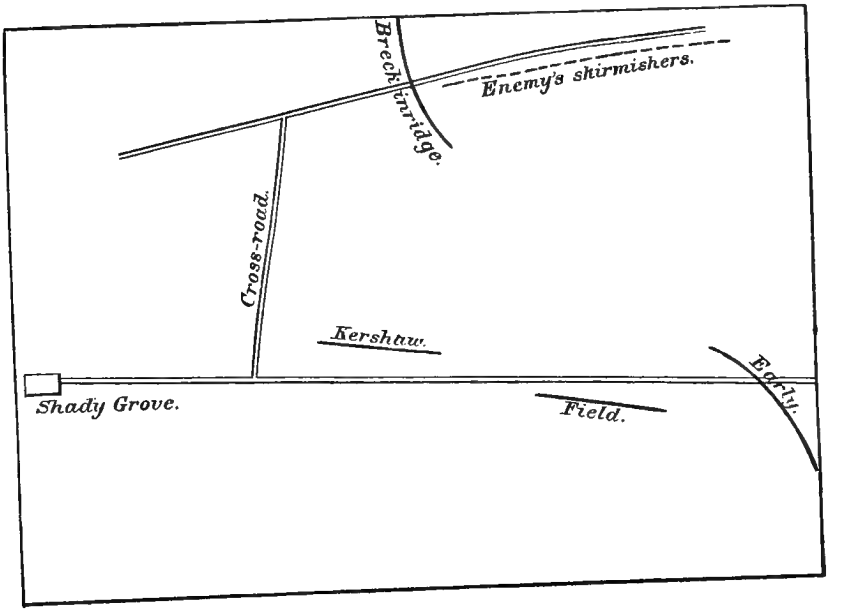
C. T. MASON,
Captain, Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION, *May* 29, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. M. SORREL, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: I send you a rude sketch of the position. If it be true, as the courier I sent you reports, that the enemy advance in our direction, I know of nothing to notify us of their approach. There is no obstacle to the passage of infantry in all the country between Breckinridge and Field. The first thing they would strike would be the artillery in the field in Field's front. I wrote an inquiry about the proposition to send a division in the interval between Early and Breckinridge. Please inform me.

J. B. KERSHAW,
Brigadier-General.



SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 134. } *May* 29, 1864.

In the temporary absence of Lieutenant-General Ewell, caused by sickness, Major-General Early is assigned to the command of the Second Army Corps. Permission is granted General Ewell to retire from the field that he may have the benefit of rest and medical treatment.

By order of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Clark's House, May 29, 1864—3.30 p. m.

[General R. H. ANDERSON:]

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to inform you that the enemy appear to be moving toward the Central road; will probably strike it at Peake's Station if the present line of march is continued. They have appeared between Taliaferro's and Price's, beyond Hanover Court-House, and have also appeared at Wickham's. Infantry is reported as also cavalry. Be prepared to move in any direction.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Enemy's cavalry said to be moving up road from Aenon Church, by Dr. Shelton's, toward McKenzie's.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
Hundley's Corner, May 29, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General ANDERSON,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: Major-General Rodes directs me to inform you that the enemy is reported advancing infantry skirmishers up the south side of Totopotomoy Creek, and he has thrown out skirmishers to meet them. As matters now stand, in event of any engagement this corps will be required, it is supposed, to watch the right and rear, and one division will be on the left of Early's, which is on the road to Pole Green Church, and the other on the right of it. Major-General Rodes requests that you will keep a few vedettes to watch between him and General Breckinridge, and if you move please notify him.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant.

A. S. PENDLETON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Clark's, May 29, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General ANDERSON:

GENERAL: General Lee wishes you to have your troops in position to support General Early and to be ready to move up so as to cover any link that may occur on Early's left. Breckinridge is on his left and Hill to the left of him.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Clark's, May 29, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General ANDERSON:

GENERAL: General Early now reports that he does not think that the force which was advancing on him was infantry. General Lee desires you to have your troops ready to be moved either way and to send a staff officer to General Early and one to General Hill to be well acquainted with the condition of things in front of each, and then to be guided by your judgment in moving to the support of the point where you may be required. General Hill is on the left of General Breckinridge covering the point where the road from Shady Grove Church to Hanover Court-House crosses the Totopotomoy along the creek. General Lee says he will not be able to see you to-night but will to-morrow.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Clark's, May 29, 1864—6.40 p. m.

General ANDERSON:

GENERAL: There is a gap reported between Breckinridge's right and Early's left. The country is regarded as impracticable; the creek there is difficult of passage, yet you had better be prepared to ford it. Send forward an officer to acquaint yourself with the position, &c.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. N. PENDLETON,
Commanding Artillery:

GENERAL: I have this morning inspected the Stuart Horse Artillery and find the command in tolerably efficient condition. The fresh horses (100) have not yet been supplied by Colonel Corley, and are greatly needed. Those now in the batteries are much worn down and many of them unfit for service. They are properly groomed and cared for, grazed, and receive about 8 pounds corn. The caissons are well supplied with ammunition. The axle of a Napoleon gun in McGregor's battery is broken, and the piece has been sent to Richmond for repair. In the action yesterday 1 man was killed and 1 wounded, and 2 horses disabled. Major Chew is very anxious to effect the transfer to his battalion of the battery of horse artillery in General Breckinridge's command. He urges that General B. has now two battalions of mounted artillery, and that the horse artillery would be of more service in the cavalry, and would give two batteries to each division. Major Chew is desirous that you will direct the transfer. I shall make every exertion this morning to procure the fresh horses for the battalion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. ESTEN COOKE,
Captain and Assistant Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Clark's House, May 29, 1864—6.45 a. m.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

GENERAL: I do not propose to move the troops to-day unless it becomes necessary. I wish you, therefore, to get all your men together, rest and refresh them as much as possible, and supply them with ammunition, provisions, &c. Be prepared to move should circumstances require it. I think it probable that should the enemy intend to advance from his present position on Richmond it will be by Haw's Shop to Atlee's Station. I have directed General Hill to be ready to support you. Take a position to resist his advance, acquaint yourself with the roads and country in your vicinity, and post your pickets to insure your security. Advise General Hill (at Shady Grove Church, on road from Atlee's to Mechanicsville) as well as myself of any movement against you.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Clark's House, May 29, 1864—3.10 p. m.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

GENERAL: Your note of 2.45 received. The general commanding directs me to say that General Early, with Ewell's corps, is on your right; he extends over toward Pole Green Church, and cannot be far from your right. Anderson (Kershaw is a part of First Corps) is in rear of Early, in reserve, and available for movements either way. The general does not think they will be able to or will attempt to pass between you and Early, but wishes you to be prepared and to hold the position you occupy. Have you your artillery with you?

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Clark's, May 29, 1864—5 p. m.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

GENERAL: The last reports from the enemy represent him to be moving by Taliaferro's Mill toward Dr. Shelton's. General A. P. Hill is on the road from Shady Grove Church to Hanover Court-House, and will advance to the point where it crosses Totopotomoy Creek. General Mahone will be immediately on your left along the creek.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *May* 29, 1864—5 p. m.

General B. BRAGG.
Richmond:

All the iron-clads are through the obstructions. The Virginia a very little after low water.

W. H. STEVENS,
Colonel of Engineers.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
In the Field, near Chester, Va., May 29, 1864.

His Excellency President DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I had the honor to receive yesterday afternoon, through Colonel Wood, your letter of the 28th instant, inclosing a copy of General Lee's letter of the same date, from near Atlee's Station. I have telegraphed him to inform me when and where I could meet him for a conference. I am now awaiting his answer. The report you refer to of Butler breaking up his encampments in my front is only partially true, and indicates probably a change of position, not a withdrawal of part of his forces. The latest information received from the signal corps (27th instant) is that about 4,000 men have been sent off by him (see report* of Major Milligan herewith inclosed). My force is so small at present that to divide it for the purpose of re-enforcing Lee would jeopardize the safety of the part left to guard my lines, and would greatly endanger Richmond itself. The question of abandoning in part or in whole my present position from Drewry's Bluff to Petersburg is a momentous one, which requires the most earnest consideration of the Government before it is adopted. The pontoon train reported by Major Milligan on the 27th instant as having been sent up to Butler, signifies probably an intention on his part to co-operate with Grant in his operations against Richmond by throwing a bridge across the James River.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 15. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA.,
May 29, 1864.

I. It having been reported to these headquarters that our pickets and skirmishers have allowed those of the enemy to advance to within very short distance of our lines, and that the pickets of the two lines are becoming too familiar, it is hereby ordered that no communication whatever should be had between our pickets and those of the enemy. The latter must be fired upon whenever they are seen within range of our guns; due precaution, however, being taken to prevent a waste of ammunition. No exchange of papers will be permitted, and no communication of any kind allowed, except under flag of truce sent by a division commander by direction of these headquarters. Division commanders will see that this order, like all other general and special orders relating to their commands, is read to the troops. This order is dictated by a stern military necessity, as the forbidden practice affords positive advantages to the enemy in procuring information and directing his force; but even if this necessity did not exist, the commanding general still deeply deplores the moral disgrace incurred by his troops in anything like voluntary or unnecessary association with the savage foes who are not only warring against us, but persecuting our women and children, and destroying private property. The hands of such a foe are unworthy the friendly or courteous touch of a Confederate soldier.

II. The regiment of Johnson's brigade and the battery now at Port Walthall Junction will rejoin their commands at once.

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* Not found.

III. Pursuant to instructions from the War Department, Brig. Gen. R. E. Colston, is relieved from duty in this department. In relieving General Colston, the commanding general herewith takes occasion to express his appreciation of the able and intelligent manner in which he has invariably discharged the responsible duties devolving upon him. In accordance with the same instructions, Col. William Butler is assigned to the command of the First Military District.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ATLEE'S, *May* 30, 1864—7.30 p. m.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond:

General Beauregard says the Department must determine what troops to send for him. He gives it all necessary information. The result of this delay will be disaster. Butler's troops (Smith's corps) will be with Grant to-morrow. Hoke's division, at least, should be with me by light to-morrow.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 125. } *Richmond, May* 30, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XI. Company A, First Confederate Battalion, now on duty as provost guard in Atlanta, Ga., will immediately proceed to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty with its proper command.

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XIII. Col. L. M. Keitt, commanding Twentieth South Carolina Volunteers, will immediately proceed with his regiment to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BURNT MILL, [*May* 30, 1864]—10 a. m.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: The enemy have advanced their cavalry up the Old Church and Black Creek Church road several miles. They now have a wagon park at Mrs. Alexander's. They have also advanced upon the Old Cold Harbor road, taking with them their wagons. I cannot hear of any infantry this side of Old Church. I saw the road at J. Higgins', which is about 1 mile south of the church; nothing was moving on it at 9 a. m. The drums seem to have approached Old Church, and although I have no positive proof of the fact, still judging from what I hear and see, I think that General Grant is con-

centrating a large force on his left, and contemplates a move in this direction very soon. This morning at sunrise I sent a man to see the road leading from Old Church to the White House; everything was quiet; only scouting parties pass that road. I shall start 2 couriers, as there are so many scouting parties out this morning. You will please excuse me for not signing my true name.

Yours, respectfully,

S. FRANKLIN [STRINGFELLOW].

I have a man on the Old Church and White House road.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 30, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON:

GENERAL: As far as I can judge from the information I have received, I think the enemy will take a line for their right up Crump's Creek to Taliaferro's Mill, and thence along up to Smith's Store, and thence to the Totopotomoy Creek, embracing McKenzie's Corner, then down the north side of the Totopotomoy and cross over to the head waters of the Matadequin, near Bethesda Church. After fortifying this line they will probably make another move by their left flank over toward the Chickahominy. This is just a repetition of their former movements. It can only be arrested by striking at once at that part of their force which has crossed the Totopotomoy in General Early's front. I have desired him to do this if he thought it could be done advantageously, and have written to him that you will support him. Please communicate with him at once. Whatever is determined on should be done as soon as practicable.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: I have heard through Lieutenant-Colonel Sorrel that Kershaw's old brigade is much in need of a good brigade commander, and I am anxious that a brigade that has always done so well should now be well commanded. I desire you to consult General Kershaw at once, so that a good commander may be recommended for the brigade as soon as practicable.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

MAY 30, 1864—2 p. m.

[General R. H. ANDERSON:]

GENERAL: I inclose you a note* from General Early. I approve what is therein suggested, and have authorized General Early to carry out what is proposed, if his judgment approves. I desire you, if circumstances permit, to carry out your part.

R. E. LEE,
General.

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*See Early to Lee, 12 m., p. 854.

HDQRS. SIXTH REGT. SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Camp Lee, Va., May 30, 1864.

Colonel SALE,
Military Secretary:

COLONEL: I have the honor to submit the following report in answer to your communication of 23d instant. I am unable to give copies of orders, &c., or to report exact dates, because of the detention of all baggage at Greensborough, N. C., from the want of railroad transportation:

First. I received orders to move my regiment while at Ashepoo, S. C., first about 1st April, 1864 (which was countermanded), and again on the 15th day of April, 1864, and through General Beauregard, commanding Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. Two companies of my regiment were then on John's Island, S. C.; one was at Adams' Run, S. C.; one at Jacksonborough, S. C., and six at Ashepoo, S. C.

Second. I received two copies of certain paragraphs, Special Orders, No. 65, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, while stationed at Ashepoo, S. C., about the 1st April, 1864; one copy direct from department headquarters, the other forwarded through my immediate brigade commander, and both indorsed official, in the names of their respective assistant adjutant-generals.

Third. I arrived in Richmond on 22d instant with a portion of my command, and immediately reported to Brig. Gen. M. C. Butler. Owing to the difficulty of railroad transportation men continued to come in daily until the 26th instant, when Lieutenant-Colonel Miller arrived with the remainder. These men were brought on by rail, because of the want of saddles, &c. About the 1st of April I received orders to move. Seven companies were relieved from duty on the day following, and on the third day, when they were about to march, an order by telegraph was received from General Jordan, chief of staff to General Beauregard, to return to duty and remain until further orders from that department. I reported this to Major-General Hampton, and after repeated applications to him was relieved from duty, and ordered to move on 16th April. The different portions of my command, under the lieutenant-colonel and major, reported to me at Branchville, S. C., on 19th April. I left them at Orangeburg, S. C., and reported in person at Columbia, S. C., to Major-General Hampton, who ordered me to remain until our horses could be shod, &c. The several regiments in advance of ours having precedence in the opinion of Major-General Hampton, I could not get the use of the blacksmith shops until the 3d May, instant.

Having all of our horses shod in front, I ordered the regiment to move on the 5th May, instant, marching short distances for the first few days until the horses were completely shod. I visited the command en route at Orangeburg and Winnsborough, S. C., at Charlotte and Greensborough, N. C., and at Danville, Va. Upon leaving Ashepoo, S. C., I sent home every man who could procure a better horse and as many more as would make one-half the regiment, all of whom reported on the 2d May and brought on the horses. The remaining half were then relieved, to report on the 16th May to Lieutenant-Colonel Miller, at Columbia, S. C., to come on by rail. By this means, and without any detention whatever, every officer and man in the regiment received from ten to fifteen days' furlough.

Fourth. The regiment moved in separate detachments, respectively, under Lieutenant-Colonel Miller and Major Ferguson, commanding, whose reports are herewith submitted.

I have the honor to be, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. K. AIKEN,
Colonel.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH SOUTH CAROLINA CAVALRY,
Camp Lee, Va., May 30, 1864.

Col. H. K. AIKEN,
Commanding Sixth South Carolina Cavalry:

COLONEL: In accordance with instructions I have the honor to submit the following report: Left Columbia evening of 5th; near Winnsborough, 6th, 15 miles; at Winnsborough, 7th, 15 miles; to Black Stocks, 8th, 16 miles; Chester, 9th, 13 miles; Rock Hill, 10th, 23 miles; Charlotte, 11th, 27 miles; Concord, 12th, 21 miles; Salisbury, 13th, 21 miles; lay over at Salisbury a day and a half on account of high water, and a day and a half crossing the Yadkin and traveling 15 miles to Lexington, 16th; High Point, night of the 17th, 17 miles; Greensborough, night of 18th, 16 miles; Reidsville, night of 19th, 25 miles; Danville, night of 20th, 25 miles; Laurel Grove, night of 21st, 17 miles; New's Ferry, night of 22d, 16 miles; Clark's Ferry, night of 23d, 27 miles; 24th, one day crossing Staunton River and traveling 5 miles; Keysville, night of 25th, 23 miles; Burkeville, night of 26th, 20 miles; Amelia Court-House, night of 27th, 20 miles; Winterpock, night of 28th, 23 miles; reached Richmond, 29th, 25 miles. All, making distance of 425 miles.

Respectfully submitted.

T. B. FERGUSON,
Major, Commanding Detachment.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HDQRS. SIXTH REGT. [SOUTH CAROLINA] CAVALRY,
Camp Lee, May 30, 1864.

Col. H. K. AIKEN,
Comdg. Sixth Regiment [South Carolina] Cavalry:

COLONEL: In pursuance of orders from the Secretary of War, promulgated on the 15th of April, 1864, I left Camp Bee, on Ashepoo River, S. C., with six companies of this command on the 17th day of April, 1864, and camped at Walterborough, S. C., on the evening of the same day, a distance traveled of 18 miles, and marched successively as follows: To Rayzor's Bridge on the 18th, 15 miles; to Branchville on the 19th, 18 miles; to Orangeburg on the 20th, 19 miles; to Sandy Run on the 21st, 25 miles; to Columbia on the 22d, 15 miles. I was joined at Branchville, S. C., by the detachment of four companies, under command of Major Ferguson, and reported to Col. H. K. Aiken, in Columbia, S. C., on the evening of the 22d of April.

On the night of the 17th of May I left Columbia, S. C., with a detachment of 360 dismounted men, and arrived in Charlotte, N. C., on the morning of the 18th, and traveled successively, as follows: To Greensborough, N. C., on the 19th; a point on the Piedmont Railroad on the evening of the 19th; to Danville, Va., on the morn-

ing of the 22d; arrived in Richmond, Va., on the 23d. The delay at Charlotte and on the Piedmont railroad was caused by the inability of the railroad company to furnish the necessary transportation.

With every assurance that no time was lost that could be avoided, and that no exertion was spared to facilitate the movement of the command, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

L. P. MILLER,
Lieut. Col. Sixth Regiment Cavalry.

MAY 30, 1864—12 m.

[General R. E LEE:]

GENERAL: Your note received. I have made a road across Beaver Dam by Dickenson's into the Old Church and Mechanicsville road, 1 mile from Bethesda Church. This will give me the nearest road by Old Cold Harbor, Beulah Church, &c. I have made another road farther down into the Mechanicsville road by Martin's house. The enemy's skirmishers have driven in the cavalry picket in my front, on the road from this to Old Church to my line of skirmishers, one-half mile in my front. The enemy's skirmishers are also at Bethesda Church. The skirmishers are infantry, but I can get no accurate information of the force in rear. The enemy is also in some force on the heights beyond the Totopotomoy, on the road by Pole Green Church.

Field's division is taking the place of my left division, and I will withdraw Rodes from the right and send him out on the Mechanicsville road to Bethesda Church to see what the enemy has, and, if necessary, I will send the other divisions to co-operate with him and attack the enemy, getting Anderson to take the place of my other divisions, and in the event of my meeting the enemy and driving him Anderson can move down on the road to Old Church from this place if you think proper. Doles' brigade is already on and across the Mechanicsville road, which is in sight from my right.

J. A. EARLY,
Major-General.

P. S.—I am inclined to the opinion that no large force is on this side Totopotomoy. I will not go too far from the rest of our troops.

Respectfully,

J. A. EARLY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LONGSTREET'S CORPS,
May 30, 1864—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. A. EARLY,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: General Field reports having come upon an intrenched line of the enemy, and owing to that circumstance and the approach of darkness I have suspended his movement and have drawn my whole line back to the left again, so as to connect with General Breckinridge, between whom and the left of my line a very wide gap had been made.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. ANDERSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Clark's, May 30, 1864.

General BRECKINRIDGE:

GENERAL: Your note of 4.45 a. m. received. The general is pleased to hear of the satisfactory state of things on your line.

Respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 30, 1864—10 p. m.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: We had artillery firing and skirmishing to-day, inflicting more damage than we received, but not much on either side. Enemy shelled heavily this evening; little harm done; it was followed by sharp skirmishing on my right. I am removing now to the new line marked out by General Smith. General Kershaw sent me word this evening that his division was ordered away. I have sought for troops to connect with my right, but do not find any.

Respectfully,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Major-General.

P. S.—My headquarters are on the main road, about one-half mile from those I have lately had.

J. C. B.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 30, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Anderson, with regard to resuming the connection on right of General Breckinridge.

By order of General Lee:

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 30, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your note of 10 p. m. has been received and referred to Major-General Anderson, with regard to the desired connection on your right. General Anderson moved no doubt on a call from General Early to support him in a movement against enemy on this side of Totopotomoy Creek, in front of Second Corps, and will return very probably to his original position before morning. In case he does not return before daylight, it would be well to protect your right with skirmishers, and notify General Hill, who has very little in front of his left, and can aid you.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 125. } ADJT. AND INSPT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, May* 30, 1864.

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VI. Capt. W. W. Fraser, of Company A, First Regiment Virginia Artillery, will report to Brig. Gen. James L. Kemper, commanding reserve forces of Virginia, for assignment to duty.

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XVIII. Maj. I. M. Partridge, commissary of subsistence, Provisional Army, C. S., having been assigned to the duty of perfecting the records of the Mississippi troops serving in the Army of Northern Virginia, under an act of Congress approved February 16, 1864, commanding officers of Mississippi troops are requested to afford him such facilities in the discharge of his duties as may not conflict with the interests of the service. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation, and he will be allowed to purchase the same rations from the subsistence department as are sold to colonels in the field.

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By command of the Secretary of War :

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Hancock's House, May 30, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL : I have the honor to inform you that pursuant to the wishes of the War Department I relieved on yesterday Brig. Gen. R. E. Colston from duty in this department, and assigned Col. William Butler, Provisional Army, C. S., to the command of the First District—extending from the line of Swift Creek to the Roanoke River. But as Colonel Butler is ranked by other colonels in the district, and as Brigadier-General Dearing is often serving in the same district, I hope an officer of more rank may be at once ordered to report to me. An officer of more rank than that of a colonel would necessarily inspire more confidence in the people and in the troops, particularly the local troops. Colonel Butler is ranked by Colonel Benbow, of the Twenty-third South Carolina Volunteers. This regiment has been necessarily detached to guard Petersburg, owing to the few troops there at my command, and it is deemed advisable at this time to remove his regiment and replace it by one, the commanding officer of which would be inferior in rank to Colonel Butler.

Colonel Butler is also ranked by the colonels in the cavalry brigade, and by its commander, and should he be appointed brigadier-general he would still be ranked by General Dearing, which would cause embarrassment in the administration of affairs in that district. For these reasons I urgently request that a permanent commander be sent to command the First Military District at once, as changes from time to time are detrimental to the service, as each new commander views the defenses of his district in a different light, and undoes in a manner what has been the labor of days and weeks of his predecessor. And besides these considerations, the enemy ascertain-

ing that a colonel is in command at that important point may estimate our forces accordingly and be invited to make an attack on that city, which it is important to avoid. His estimate of our force, in the absence of more definite information, is very likely to be shaped by the known rank of the officer commanding it.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *May* 30, 1864—10.15 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

General Lee having called on me for re-enforcements, and feeling authorized by the President's letter of 28th instant to send them, I have ordered Hoke's division to report to him. I will follow with Johnson's as soon as enemy's movements in my front will permit.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

RICHMOND, *May* 30, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

By direction of the President you will send Hoke's division, which you reported ready, immediately to this point by railroad. The trains will be ordered to report near your headquarters. Move with the utmost expedition, but with as much secrecy as possible.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 16. HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA., *May* 30, 1864.

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IV. Hoke's division of infantry, with Read's battalion of artillery, will move as rapidly as possible to the headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding. Johnson's division will be extended to occupy that portion of the lines now held by Hoke's division. General D. H. Hill will assist General Johnson in posting his troops. The chief of artillery will replace Read's battalion in the positions occupied by it with other artillery.

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By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 126. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, May* 31, 1864.

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XXXII. Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke, Provisional Army, C. S., with his division, will proceed with all possible expedition to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia and report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for assignment to duty.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JOHN WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS,
Near Coleman's, on road from Shady Grove Church to Mechanicsville, May 31, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON,
Commanding First Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say that he wishes you to get every available man in the ranks by to-morrow. Gather in all stragglers and men absent without proper authority. Send to the field hospitals and have every man capable of performing the duties of a soldier returned to his command. Send back your inspectors with instructions to see that the wishes of the general commanding are carried out. Let every man fit for duty be present.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, &c.,
May 31, 1864.

[Major-General ANDERSON:]

GENERAL: General Lee has received your note of 7 p. m. He also received a message from General Fitz. Lee through Major Mason, of his staff, that his command and a brigade of Hoke's had been driven from their position this evening by the enemy, and that they were of the opinion that infantry was in their front. General Hoke will, whilst occupying his present relative position to you, be under your control. He was directed to see you and arrange for co-operation to-morrow. He has three brigades up, and the general wishes you to direct him to send back and try and get up the fourth.

Very respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

OLD COLD HARBOR, *May* 31, 1864—3.15 p. m.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: The enemy are advancing on this place; nothing but cavalry discovered so far. Their advance about half a mile from this place. I am prepared to dispute their progress. Clingman's brigade, of Hoke's division, has halted between Gaines' Mill and Mechanicsville, about 2 miles from former place. Had they not better be ordered on to assist in securing this place?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FITZ. LEE,
Major-General.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *May* 31, 1864—9 a. m.

General B. BRAGG:

Five trains of troops left since 5.15 a. m.; another is now loading, and the last will soon get off.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *May* 31, 1864—9 a. m.

General B. BRAGG:

Our demonstration of yesterday afternoon showed works of enemy in our front still occupied by infantry and artillery, also some troops in reserve. All quiet at present.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *May* 31, 1864—10 a. m.

General B. BRAGG:

General Dearing reports that he had driven in the enemy's pickets at Gatlin's, and that he is endeavoring to sink two of their gun-boats. He reports that the enemy has a very small force at that point.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *May* 31, 1864—11.45 a. m.

General B. BRAGG:

General Gracie has just reported as follows:

A deserter, a sergeant from Seventh New Hampshire Regiment, Hawley's brigade, Terry's division, Gillmore's corps, reports Smith's corps on transports, leaving for Grant's army. Enemy have erected six large forts along their lines, in which they have mounted heavy guns; also have two large forts in their rear.

If this should prove correct this would still leave here in my front 10,000 or 12,000 men.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *May* 31, 1864—12.20 p. m.

General B. BRAGG:

General Dearing has driven the enemy from Red Bluff. He is now engaged by a gun-boat and battery lower down. Fort Clifton not engaged. Enemy's cavalry reported to be crossing from Cobb's toward fighting.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS,
Camp on the lines, May 31, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: I am just in receipt of your note of to-day respecting the order of General Bragg to General Whiting, commanding him, on the 15th instant, to proceed to Richmond without delay with all the available forces at Petersburg, and saying that the defense of that city was not as vital as that of the metropolis. My letter to Captain Otey, assistant adjutant-general, was in reply to an official communication from him in the words and figures following, to wit:

HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 29, 1864.

GENERAL: I am instructed by the commanding general to inquire of you whether while you were in command of the First Military District you received any order to evacuate the city of Petersburg? If so, you will please send these headquarters a copy of the same. If you haven't the order with you, you will please state where it can be found.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Thus officially called upon I replied on the same day by the letter which you request my consent to publish. This official correspondence I consider to be under the control of General Beauregard. If the call upon me and my reply are both published, I have no objection whatever, but I wish the idea to be excluded that I publish it or appear to volunteer any information or its publication from any personal motives. I should not have spoken of the order at all but for the fact that General Whiting spoke of it freely himself in my presence to others without any confidential injunction or restraint. I have no personal hostility to General Bragg, and wish to avoid the appearance of expressing any, or of seeming to instigate the expression of any personal hostility to him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WISE,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 31, 1864.

Col. T. M. R. TALCOTT, *First Engineer Regiment:*

COLONEL: I am directed by Colonel Rives to suggest to you the propriety of ordering a company of pontoneers to the James River to take charge of the boats now being collected near Drewry's Bluff. I have already a bridge across the river at Drewry's Bluff, and will have within two days over forty boats in the river.

General Ransom is anxious that sufficient boats should be in readiness to bridge the James at any point should the necessity arise. In such a case the only troops available for such duty are about 30 men, under Lieutenant Sully. This, of course, will be too small a company to handle fifty boats. A telegram was sent you at headquarters asking that your pontoon train be ordered to Richmond. The answer came from General Lee authorizing Colonel Rives to order them down. Eight boats are expected to-night, but the reserve is still at Gordonsville, and Lieutenant Smith writes that he has no transportation to bring them down. We will have with the eight boats from Goochland Court-House forty-two boats in hand, and will be able to make two boats per day. If you could get the ten from Gordonsville we would have sufficient to throw a bridge across at almost any point. We had to pile about half the bridge at Drewry's Bluff. Colonel Rives has been sick and confined to his bed for several days.

I have requested Mr. Herbert to forward the maps for which you write. They were put up yesterday, but by some accident were not delivered to Lieutenant Meade.

Respectfully, &c.,

ISAAC W. SMITH,
Captain, Engineers, &c.

RICHMOND, *May* 31, 1864.

His Excellency WILLIAM SMITH, *Governor of Virginia:*

DEAR SIR: At your request I called, with the note of General Bragg to you of this date, on General Bragg, who referred me to Major-General Ransom. The substance and result of an interview had with Major-General Ransom is as follows: He expresses surprise at the smallness of the effective force of the militia, and thought that we could muster about 2,000 men. He thinks that the

two regiments might do all the guard duty in the city, and that if we would undertake it, he would have us report to him, upon the further condition, however, that we shall be under his absolute command for guard duty, or any other service to which he may oblige us, uncontrolled by you or any other authority; that otherwise he does not want us under his command at all.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. J. EVANS,
Colonel Nineteenth Regiment Virginia Militia.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
June 1, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Colonel Evans.

My statement to him was to effect that I would use that part of the militia which I thought necessary for guard duty; that I did not think the whole of the two regiments would be necessary for that duty; that I would make the service of all as agreeable as possible, but that after being put under my orders I must have absolute control, as of any other troops; otherwise the interference of different parties would make the militia a source of embarrassment, instead of an acquisition to my force. If the militia after being assigned to duty with me is liable to receive orders from any other source than these headquarters as to its position, movements, or duties, I must say that it can be of no use in this department.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., commanding, for May 31, 1864; *headquarters Richmond, Va.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.	Aggregate present and absent last return.	Prisoners.	
	Officers.	Men.						Officers.	Men.
General staff	13	.....	.....	13	14	.....	11	1	.....
Gracie's brigade	82	916	916	1,265	2,362	.....	2,416	.....	.....
60th Alabama Regiment	23	319	318	371	751	.....	749	.....	.....
25th Virginia Battalion	32	618	611	722	882	.....	881	.....	.....
2d Maryland Infantry	23	286	286	361	466	.....	467	4	51
Battalion of Cadets	18	200	200	225	265	.....	264	.....	.....
Total	178	2,339	2,331	2,944	4,726	.....	4,777	4	51
1st Maryland Cavalry[a]	19	279	279	320	592	.....	591	4	77
Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion[a]	14	203	201	288	400	.....	397	1	8
42d Virginia Battalion of Cavalry[a]	17	220	216	296	657	.....	651	2	1
Total*	50	702	696	904	1,649	.....	1,639	7	86
Artillery Defenses	124	2,259	2,524	2,893	3,307	38	.....	.....	.....
1st Maryland Artillery[a]	3	74	74	86	123	4	.....	1	9
2d Maryland Artillery[a]	4	71	71	87	96	4	104	.....	.....
4th Maryland Artillery[a]	1	50	50	59	74	2	.....	.....	5
Total	132	2,454	2,719	3,125	3,600	48	104	1	14
Grand total	373	5,495	5,746	6,986	9,989	48	6,531	13	151

[a] Copied from last return; no report in.

Organization of troops in the Department of Richmond, commanded by Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., May 31, 1864.

Gracie's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ARCHIBALD GRACIE, Jr.

41st Alabama, Col. Martin L. Stansel.
43d Alabama, Capt. William W. Harder.
59th Alabama, ——— ———.
60th Alabama, ——— ———.
23d Battalion Alabama Sharpshooters, ——— ———.

Maryland Line.

Col. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON.

2d Maryland Infantry, Capt. James P. Crane.
1st Maryland Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Ridgely Brown.
1st Maryland Artillery, Capt. William F. Dement.
2d Maryland Artillery, Capt. William H. Griffin.
4th Maryland Artillery, ——— ———.

Not brigaded.

25th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Wyatt M. Elliott.
Battalion of Cadets, Lieut. Col. Scott Shipp.
Holcombe (South Carolina) Legion, Col. W. Pinkney Shingler.
42d Virginia Battalion Cavalry, Lieut. Col. William T. Robins.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF.

Heavy Artillery.

Lieut. Col. J. M. MAURY.

Light Artillery (Stark's Battalion).

Maj. ALEXANDER W. STARK.

Mathews (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. A. D. Armistead.
McComas (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. David A. French.

ARTILLERY DEFENSES.

Lieut. Col. JOHN C. PEMBERTON.

First Division (inner line).

Lieut. Col. JOHN W. ATKINSON.

10th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. James O. Hensley.
19th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. N. R. Cary.

Second Division (inner line).

Lieut. Col. JAMES HOWARD.

18th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. Mark B. Hardin.
20th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. James E. Robertson.

Light Artillery.

Lieut. Col. C. E. LIGHTFOOT.

Caroline (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Thomas R. Thornton.
Second Nelson (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. J. Henry Rives.
Surry (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. James D. Hankins.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 1, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

There has been skirmishing along the lines to-day. General Anderson and General Hoke attacked the enemy in their front this forenoon and drove them to their intrenchments. This afternoon the enemy attacked General Heth and were handsomely repulsed by Cooke's and Kirkland's brigades. Generals Breckinridge and

Mahone drove the enemy from their front, taking about 150 prisoners. A force of infantry is reported to have arrived at Tunstall's Station from the White House and to be extending up the York River Railroad. They state that they belong to Butler's forces.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

JUNE 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: The opinion of my medical attendant, Dr. McGuire, and that of myself, is that I am as able for duty to-day as at any time since the campaign commenced. I am unwilling to be idle in this crisis, and, with the permission of the commanding general, I would prefer to remain with this army until circumstances may admit of my being replaced in command of my corps.

I am, colonel, respectfully, &c.,

R. S. EWELL,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS BRECKINRIDGE'S DIVISION,
June 1, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COLONEL: General Lee's note to General Breckinridge, dated 8.30 a. m., has been just received. General Breckinridge is along the lines, but I have sent the dispatch to him by his aide-de-camp, and the movement to the right will begin as soon as possible. General Hill read the note on the way, which will facilitate the change.

Respectfully,

J. STODDARD JOHNSTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Everything has been quiet in our front since 5 p. m. yesterday. Slight skirmish fire this a. m., but no artillery.

J. S. J.

[First indorsement.]

General BRECKINRIDGE:

GENERAL: Since General Lee's note of this morning, General Hill has sent Heth's division to the vicinity of Hundley's Corner. He may not, therefore, be able to relieve you, and until relieved, of course, you will not move.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

12.45 P. M.

Major JOHNSTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

From above, I may not move. The wagons with rations and cooking utensils must come up at once. We may cook here; if not, the wagons can follow us.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Major-General.

[COLD HARBOR, *June* 1, 1864.]

[General BRECKINRIDGE:]

GENERAL: Hearing from the left that General Finegan was ready to move his skirmishers I charged with mine to the rifle-pits in my front, connecting with General Wharton's left, capturing 12 or 15 prisoners. My skirmishers were there subjected to a heavy fire from the left flank and were driven in. After mine had come in I received a note* from General Finegan, which is inclosed. My skirmishers cannot [*sic*] unless the enemy are dispossessed in General Finegan's front. Shall I repeat the experiment without General Finegan's co-operation?

GEORGE S. PATTON,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

Please preserve the inclosed note* for my use.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 127. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, June* 1, 1864.

* * * * * * *

V. Lieutenant-Colonel Eshleman, with his battalion of light artillery, will immediately proceed to headquarters Department of Richmond and report to Maj. Gen. R. Ransom, jr., commanding, &c., for assignment to duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR CHESTER, VA., *June* 1, 1864—7 p. m.

General ROBERT E. LEE,
Shady Grove Church, Va.:

Prisoners and deserters report Gillmore with two divisions, about 8,000 men, still in my front. One of his divisions, with Smith's corps, say, 16,000 men in all, have gone to White House, probably to form junction with Grant. I have left here only one division, which can be moved to north side of James River as soon as balance of Gillmore's corps shall have been withdrawn, or Government shall have determined to abandon line of communication from Petersburg to Richmond.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 1, 1864—12.45 p. m.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

It would be disadvantageous to abandon the line between Richmond and Petersburg, but as two-thirds of Butler's force has joined Grant can you not leave sufficient guard to move with the balance of your command to north side of James River and take command of right wing of army?

R. E. LEE,
General.

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* Not found.

SHADY GROVE CHURCH, *June* 1, 1864—4 p. m.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Hancock's House:

General Grant appears to be gradually approaching the York River Railroad. Whether with a view of touching the James River or not I cannot ascertain. I am ignorant of the movements of the enemy in your front, or whether it would be in your power to take position north of James River.

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 17. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA., *June* 1, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. Col. William Butler is hereby relieved from command of the First Military District and is assigned to the command of the defenses of Petersburg and garrison, including sub-district between Appomattox and Swift Creek. The attention of Colonel Butler is particularly called to the defense of the line between Appomatox and Swift Creek.

III. The commanding general, feeling the importance of the proper defense of the First Military District, and the want of an officer of rank and experience to conduct military operations therein, Brig. Gen. H. A. Wise is hereby detached from his brigade and will immediately assume command of the forces in the district before mentioned.

* * * * * * *

V. General Johnson will make necessary arrangements to occupy the line from the river battery by Mrs. Clay's house, thence to intersection of turnpike road—that is, the first line occupied by Hoke's and Hill's divisions—with pickets thrown out well in advance.

* * * * * * *

VIII. The limits of the First Military District are hereby extended so as to include all that portion of the department between the James and Roanoke Rivers, excluding the defenses immediately around Richmond on the south side of the James River.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *June* 1, 1864—9 p. m.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

Pickets report that early this morning heavy clouds of dust arose in rear of Butler's force moving down to Bermuda Hundred, the same occurring at 3 o'clock and continuing until 5 p. m. A boat towing two barges passed up loaded with men.

A. GRACIE, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

NEAR CHESTER, VA., *June* 1, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding at Petersburg, Va.
(Care Colonel Butler):

I reconnoitered Cobb's to-day; saw officer and troops there. Will order Johnson to capture some prisoners to-night, or make a forced reconnaissance to-morrow morning at daylight. Have authorized General Dearing to make expedition against enemy's transports.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
June 1, 1864.

Major-General HILL:

GENERAL: All quiet in our front. The enemy burned two houses in front of the center of Brigadier-General Ransom's brigade late last evening. The woods caught fire from the houses, which came near to our picket-lines.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. O. WATTS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

The work is still going on under the direction of Major Bryan and Lieutenant Postell, Engineer Corps.

G. O. WATTS,
Major, &c.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *June* 1, 1864.
(Received 9.40 p. m.)

General B. BRAGG:

The following just received from Kinston:

Enemy's cavalry, 700 strong, were just below Trenton to-day at 12 o'clock. Scouts could not ascertain whether they were moving on railroad to Kinston or would take the Duplin road. Could not learn whether they had any infantry; two pieces of artillery were seen. Scouts from New Berne informed me just before this information reached me, that an expedition was on foot to destroy the gun-boat. Can you spare me troops? I think they are coming here.

G. N. FOLK,
Colonel, Commanding.

J. H. WINDER,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to the Adjutant and Inspector General.

I know of no troops except the reserves. This application should have been made to General Beauregard, commanding the department.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 2, 1864—8 p. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR, *Richmond, Va.:*

SIR: Yesterday afternoon the enemy's cavalry were reported to be advancing by the left of our line toward Hanover Court-House and Ashland. General Hampton, with Rosser's brigade, proceeded to meet them. Rosser fell upon their rear, charged down the road toward Ashland, bearing everything before him. His progress was arrested at Ashland by the intrenchments of the enemy, when he changed his direction and advanced up the Fredericksburg railroad. General William H. F. Lee came up at this time with a part of his division and a joint attack was made. The enemy was quickly driven from the place and pursued toward Hanover Court-House until dark.

During the afternoon General Fitzhugh Lee was forced to retire from Old Cold Harbor, on our extreme right; and as it was evident that the enemy was moving in that direction our own line was extended accordingly, General Hoke occupying the extreme right. The enemy attacked in heavy force and succeeded in penetrating between Hoke and Anderson, where there was an interval in our line, causing the right of Anderson and the left of Hoke to fall back a short distance. General Hoke subsequently recovered his position and General Anderson's right assumed one a short distance in rear of that it first occupied. This morning the enemy's movement to our right continuing, corresponding changes were made in our line, Breckinridge's command and two divisions of General Hill being placed on the right. General Early, with Ewell's corps and Heth's division, occupied our left, and was directed to endeavor to get upon the enemy's right flank and drive [him] down in front of our line. General Early made the movement in the afternoon and drove the enemy from his intrenchments, following him until dark. While this attack was progressing General Hill re-enforced Breckinridge with two brigades of Wilcox's division and dislodged the enemy from Turkey Hill, in front of our extreme right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. L. ROSSER, *Comdg. Cavalry Brigade:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to express the pleasure he feels in communicating to you the following extract from a note received last night from Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, assistant adjutant-general, Army of Northern Virginia:

> General Lee directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your note of 5.30, and to express his gratification at the handsome conduct of Rosser's command, and his thanks for their having so gallantly defeated the enemy.

The major-general commanding desires me to add his thanks for your valuable assistance, and to say that he deems the successes of yesterday mainly due to your skill and gallantry and the services of your command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. G. BARKER,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *June* 2, 1864—9 a. m.

General B. BRAGG:

GENERAL: Enemy's advanced line of rifle-pits near Ware Bottom Church were taken this morning with about 100 prisoners from Seventh Connecticut. Our loss is trifling.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 2, 1864—10 a. m.

General ROBERT E. LEE:

No definite information can be obtained from prisoners taken this morning, but they represent enemy still in strong force in our front under General Gillmore. I may not be able to spare Ransom's brigade immediately.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

MEMORANDA.] NEAR CHESTER, VA., *June* 2, 1864.

First. The forced reconnaissance of to-day has shown that it is not prudent at this juncture to send off to the north side of James River Ransom's brigade, which constitutes over one-third of the infantry force at present available here.

Second. Should, however, Ransom's brigade be ordered away General Johnson's remaining brigades shall take a strategic position at the Port Walthall Junction to protect from there Drewry's Bluff, the railroad, and Petersburg. Ferebee's cavalry and such other companies as can be spared by General Dearing will protect the front and flanks of that position, guarding with special care the approaches from Bermuda Hundred Neck, keeping a line of pickets as close as practicable to the enemy. Only cavalry patrols will be required to watch the right bank of the James River from the river battery at Howlett's to Drewry's Bluff. The iron-clad gun-boats should guard the crossing of James River as far below Chaffin's Bluff as practicable.

Third. Should Johnson's division be ordered to the north side of James River, Wise's brigade shall take position at Port Walthall Junction, as prescribed for Johnson's division. Two regiments of cavalry would in that event be required for its support as already ordered for Ferebee's regiment.

Fourth. The line of the enemy's works gained this morning should be held by our skirmishers, if it can be done without too great risk or loss; otherwise our line of rifle-pits must be advanced where practicable to those occupied and abandoned by the enemy this morning.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General, Commanding.

(For Maj. Gen. B. R. Johnson, &c., on the lines.)

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *June* 2, 1864.

General GRACIE:

General Beauregard's headquarters are at Hancock's farm. You can communicate directly with him by telegraph, as his headquarters are connected by telegraph with this post.

F. MACRAE,
Adjutant of Post.

CAMP TWENTY-SIXTH VIRGINIA REGIMENT,
June 2, 1864.

General D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that during my hour of duty, everything was quiet on the line until our pickets were ordered this morning to advance. The instructions I received were carried out. I visited the whole line, and have to report that the works in front of General Elliott's brigade are much lighter than on any other portion of the line, and more thinly manned, though the position he holds (most of it) is naturally much stronger than any other part of the line. The cavalry picket on the road leading to Dunn's Mill reported that the shells from some of our batteries on the line exploded over them on Wednesday morning.

Respectfully submitted.

P. R. PAGE,
Colonel 26th Virginia Regt., General Officer of the Day.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 3, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: About 4.30 a. m. to-day the enemy made an attack upon the right of our line. In front of General Hoke's and part of General Breckinridge's line he was repulsed without difficulty. He succeeded in penetrating a salient on General Breckinridge's line and captured a portion of the battalion there posted. General Finegan's brigade, of Mahone's division, and the Maryland Battalion, of Breckinridge's command, immediately drove the enemy out with severe loss. Repeated attacks were made upon General Anderson's position, chiefly against his right, under General Kershaw. They were met with great steadiness and repulsed in every instance. The attack extended to our extreme left, under General Early, with like results. Later in the day it was twice renewed against General Heth, who occupies Early's left, but was repulsed with loss. General Hampton encountered the enemy's cavalry near Haw's Shop, and a part of General William H. F. Lee's division drove them from their intrenchments. General Fitzhugh Lee's division occupies the south side of the Chickahominy as far as Long Bridge, with pickets extending across to the James.

Our loss to-day has been small, and our success, under the blessing of God, all that we could expect.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 3, 1864.

It is a matter of great importance when the enemy is bringing against us all the men he can possibly get, that all our fighting material in the army should be armed and equipped, and on duty with their companies and regiments. Commanding officers are instructed to send back to the ranks all the extra-duty men who can

be spared through the present reduction of our transportation, and the little need of clerical labor. Cooked provisions should be brought to the front as far as practicable by wagons, and detachments sent to the rear should always be in charge of an officer. Men must not be sent to the rear upon any pretext whatever, except upon business connected with the service, or when incapacitated by wounds or sickness.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 3, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General BRECKINRIDGE:

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to say that he has been informed that the breast-works along part of your line are too high. He desires, if such be the case, that you will have it corrected, either by lowering the works, or having steps made inside for the men to stand upon. General Wharton's line was more particularly referred to, but it was said to be the case also in General Echols' front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES MARSHALL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

P. S.—The general directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your several dispatches, and to thank you for the gallant manner in which your command has maintained its position.

C. M.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Near Gaines' Mill, June 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to say that he wishes you to see that all necessary arrangements are made to keep your troops supplied with ammunition, and that the matter is not delayed until the supply in their hands is exhausted. Also send back your inspectors, and cause them to see that every man is at his place in the ranks, where his services are now so important. Let the ordnance wagons be within reach, and let each brigade commander be informed of the position of his own.

Very respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *June* 3, 1864—5 p. m.

General B. BRAGG:

Have no further developments of enemy's forces in my front since my letter of this morning to you. Please inform me if Ransom's brigade shall be sent to north side of James River. It constitutes one-third of my force and will be only one twenty-fifth of Lee's. I will obey with alacrity every order of the Department and will do the best possible under existing circumstances.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, June 3, 1864—9 p. m.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Chester Station:

Ransom's brigade is required for temporary service north of James River. Please send it immediately across at Drewry's Bluff, with orders to proceed without delay to Bottom's Bridge and report to the senior officer there.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *June* 3, 1864—9.45 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Dispatch of 9 p. m. ordering Ransom's brigade to Bottom's Bridge has just been received. It will leave immediately after being relieved from the lines.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *June* 3, 1864—11.45 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

General Johnson reports that as Ransom's brigade was about to be retired heavy skirmishing commenced in front of that brigade extending into the lines of two others, and thinks it too risky to retire it at this time. I have deferred its movement in consequence.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, near Chester, Va., June 3, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding, &c., Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: That there may not be hereafter any possible misapprehension of the part I am called upon to act in the momentous events which are transpiring and which I cannot but watch with the most intense interest and solicitude, I send you herewith copies of the telegrams* which have been exchanged between General Lee and myself since the 1st instant at 4 p. m. You will not doubt of my readiness and anxiety to co-operate with General Lee in any manner that may be deemed most conducive toward the crushing of the foe in his front. I shall be found ready and willing at all times to obey any orders the War Department may judge fit and proper to give on the subject, but I cannot, under existing circumstances, advise the withdrawal of more troops from this vicinity.

Already 13,000 out of 20,000 infantry have been sent to the north side of the James River since the battle of Drewry's Bluff, and with the forces remaining, unless taken temporarily for an immediate encounter with the enemy, it might become impossible to prevent the latter from destroying the communications between Richmond and Petersburg, nay, from capturing Petersburg, which could not be retaken without great sacrifice of life. If Ransom's brigade, numbering over one-third of the present available force in Johnson's divis-

* Not found as inclosures to this communication; but see pp. 865, 868.

ion, were withdrawn from here, it would become necessary to abandon our lines in front of Bermuda Hundred Neck, to assume a strategic position at Port Walthall Junction, thence to protect Drewry's Bluff, the railroad, and Petersburg.

The iron-clad gun-boats should guard the crossing of James River as far below Chaffin's Bluff as practicable. If Johnson's division were ordered to the north side of James River it would then be necessary to occupy the Junction with at least one brigade of infantry, assisted by such cavalry—at least two regiments—as might be spared from General Dearing's brigade, or other cavalry in the field, to watch closely in front of the enemy's lines across Bermuda Hundred Neck and give timely notice of any offensive movement from that quarter.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 129. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, June 3, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. At his own request Lieut. Col. T. G. Williams, commissary of subsistence, is relieved from duty in the office of the Commissary-General, and is temporarily assigned to duty with Brig. Gen. J. L. Kemper, commanding reserve forces of Virginia.

* * * * * * *

XVI. Brig. Gen. John H. Winder is assigned to the command of the post at Andersonville, Ga., to which he will proceed with the least practicable delay.

* * * * * * *

By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 18. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA., *June 3, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. Ransom's brigade will proceed with the least delay practicable, crossing the river at Drewry's Bluff, to Bottom's Bridge and report to the officer commanding at that point. The brigade will move immediately.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *June 3, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

Some five or six transports were seen lying off Bermuda Hundred last night. Weather so hazy enemy's movements on south side could not be discerned.

A. GRACIE, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *June* 3, 1864.

Maj. JOHN M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Have just received the following report: "Three monitors, two gun-boats, and three transports lying below Howlett's."

Respectfully,

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 130. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, June* 4, 1864.

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VII. Capt. Holmes Conrad, assistant commissary of subsistence, will report without delay to General R. E. Lee, commanding Army of Northern Virginia, for assignment to duty with Brig. Gen. M. C. Butler's brigade.

VIII. Capt. John Scott, C. S. Army, will report to Brig. Gen. J. L. Kemper, commanding reserve forces of Virginia, for temporary assignment.

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XII. Paragraph I, Special Orders No. 123, current series, convening court of inquiry in the case of Brig. Gen. S. M. Barton, Provisional Army, C. S., is hereby revoked.

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XIV. Capt. R. H. Catlett, assistant adjutant-general, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to Brig. Gen. J. L. Kemper, commanding reserve forces of Virginia, for assignment.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 138. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *June* 4, 1864.

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II. Maj. Gen. J. B. Kershaw is assigned to the command of McLaws' old division, First Army Corps.

III. Brig. Gen. Bryan Grimes is assigned to the command of Daniel's old brigade, Rodes' division, Second Army Corps.

IV. Brig. Gen. James Conner is assigned to the temporary command of McGowan's brigade, Wilcox's division, Third Army Corps.

V. Brig. Gen. Rufus Barringer is assigned to the command of Gordon's cavalry brigade, W. H. F. Lee's division.

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VII. The following-named officers having been appointed to the temporary rank of the position indicated are assigned to duty as set forth opposite their respective names: Lieut. Gen. R. H. Anderson, to the temporary command of Longstreet's corps; Lieut. Gen. J. A. Early, to the temporary command of Ewell's corps; Maj. Gen. William Mahone, to the temporary command of Anderson's division,

Hill's corps; Maj. Gen. S. D. Ramseur, to the temporary command of Early's division, Ewell's corps; Brig. Gen. William R. Cox, to the temporary command of Ramseur's brigade, Rodes' division, Ewell's corps; Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Toon, to the temporary command of Johnston's brigade, Rodes' division, Ewell's corps; Brig. Gen. William G. Lewis, to the temporary command of Pegram's brigade, Early's division, Ewell's corps; Brig. Gen. Zebulon York, to the temporary command of Hays' and Stafford's brigades, in the division of Ewell's corps now commanded by Major-General Gordon.

By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 4, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: Last night, after the date of my dispatch, Generals Breckinridge and Finegan were attacked by the enemy as they were preparing to re-establish their skirmish line. The enemy was soon repulsed. Immediately afterward an attack was made upon General Hoke's front, with a like result. Up to the time of writing nothing has occurred along the lines to-day except skirmishing at various points. The position of the army is substantially unchanged.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *June* 4, 1864—1.40 a. m.

General B. BRAGG:

I have ordered Ransom's brigade to move at daylight if no hostile demonstration is made during the night.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HANCOCK'S HOUSE, *June* 4, 1864—7.30 a. m.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

All quiet this morning. Ransom's brigade left here at 6 a. m. I shall transfer to-day my headquarters temporarily to point on turnpike between Swift Creek and Appomattox, near Petersburg.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DUNN'S HILL, *June* 4, 1864—4.30 p. m.
(Received 5th.)

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

I have replaced Ransom's brigade by one regiment Dearing's cavalry. I will endeavor still to hold our lines at Bermuda Hundred Neck.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

FLAG-SHIP VIRGINIA,
Chaffin's Bluff, June 4, 1864—10 p. m.

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Hancock's House:

I propose, if the Secretary of the Navy shall consent, to place heavy navy guns in your unoccupied works at Howlett's, and to man them entirely from the navy. Will you be able to protect them from the land forces of the enemy? Please reply as soon as possible.

JOHN K. MITCHELL,
Commanding James River Squadron.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *June* 4, 1864.

Maj. JOHN M. OTEY:

The following is General Bragg's dispatch:

Send up immediately by steamer Captain [Lieutenant] Barry, who commanded the iron-clad gun on York River Railroad in 1862, with detachment of skilled artillerymen to serve piece.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

Lieutenant Barry is with Captain Kevill's company, detached from this post by order of the commanding general. Colonel Waddy will probably know their whereabouts. The best artillerymen are in Captain Kevill's company.

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding.

[JUNE 4, 1864.]

General G. T. BEAUREGARD:

Two large bodies of dust were observed yesterday morning down toward Bermuda Hundred. By some mistake in the office this was not sent to you last night. Nothing to-day so far.

A. GRACIE, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *June* 4, 1864.

Maj. JOHN M. OTEY:

Have just received the following report:

Three monitors, one large and two medium-sized transports, and three tugs are lying together just below Howlett's. A mile lower down the masts of two gunboats can be seen above the trees.

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 5, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: Nothing has occurred on the lines to-day except slight skirmishing. There is no apparent change in the position of the enemy. No movement on his part has been discovered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
June 5, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: General Winder having been relieved from command of the Second Military District of this department, I have the honor to request that a competent officer of proper rank be ordered to report to me, to be placed in command of that important district, which embraces Weldon, Goldsborough, Kinston, Plymouth, Washington, and other important points in the State of North Carolina. I would respectfully suggest that this be done with as little delay as possible, as serious difficulties might result from the absence of such an officer in the above-named district.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

[Indorsement.]

JUNE 9, 1864.

General Lawrence S. Baker has this day been ordered to replace General Winder at Goldsborough.

S. C.

[Memorandum.]

Brig. Gen. Lawrence S. Baker, assigned to command in North Carolina, headquarters Goldsborough, will report to General G. T. Beauregard for assignment to duty in the Second District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, with headquarters at Goldsborough.

DUNN'S HILL,
Near Petersburg, June 5, 1864—9 a. m.

Flag-Officer J. K. MITCHELL:

River battery at Howlett's was not armed, because I was not certain of being able to protect it. The same doubt still exists.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *June* 5, 1864.

Maj. JOHN M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Four monitors, three transports, and three tugs lying together a little below Howlett's. Six schooner-rigged vessels and one large bark lying at various distances, from half a mile to 1½ miles, lower down.

Respectfully,

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Near Petersburg, June 5, 1864.

General D. H. HILL:

DEAR GENERAL: Yours of this date* received. The mode you propose for harassing the enemy might have a contrary effect. In-

*Not found.

stead of driving him away from his present position, it might excite his ire and induce an attack for which, you know, we are illy prepared. Under these circumstances the commanding general deems it imprudent to put any of our heavy guns in position at this time. I am obliged for your suggestion in regard to shelter for our negro laborers; will look into the matter. No news from General Lee since yesterday morning. General Lee's situation is believed to be the same as of yesterday. General Beauregard will probably move his headquarters to Dunlop's house or in that vicinity to-day.

Yours, truly,

D. B. HARRIS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 6, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: There has been very little skirmishing on the lines to-day. It was discovered early this morning that the enemy had withdrawn from the front of General Early, on our left, and from most of the front of General Anderson, in the center.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
June 6, 1864.

It is probable that the enemy is engaged in a movement from our front which we must follow with the utmost promptitude. As soon as you shall discover indications of his withdrawal from your front, the lieutenant-general commanding desires you to make your preparations to move at once and hold yourself in readiness for orders. We fear that he moved last night, and we have already lost much time in detecting it.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. M. SORREL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To division commanders.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 7, 1864—7 p. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: The operations of to-day have been unimportant. Slight skirmishing has taken place along the lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
June 7, 1864.

Please let me have a report from your front as to the position of the enemy. General Lee is exceedingly anxious to be advised of

any movement the enemy may undertake, and General Anderson desires that you will send and keep out reconnoitering parties to watch them closely.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. M. SORREL,

Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To division commanders.)

DUNLOP'S, *June* 7, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General SAMUEL COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General:

All quiet on advanced lines. Scouts report that on Saturday a long pontoon bridge, on which was pitched sixty tents, was towed past mouth Powell's Creek up James River. I have transferred my headquarters to this point. My post-office will still be at Petersburg.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,

Dunlop's House, on Swift Creek, June 7, 1864.

General S. COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

Deserters from the Federal Army are continually arriving within our lines, and from their statements many are no doubt honest in their action and intentions, while others are probably impostors and commit the act for the purpose of gaining information, or to perform any other crime that may prove injurious to our cause. As I do not feel at liberty to use my discretion in disposing of them, I have the honor to request of the Department instructions as to the desired and proper disposition to be made of this class of prisoners.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,

General.

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,

June 13, 186

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

H. L. CLAY,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

JUNE 24, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Reserved for consideration. If another prison be established, all the deserters might be confined to that and kept for awhile separately, and then either dismissed or exchanged.

J. A. SEDDON.

DUNLOP'S FARM, *June* 7, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Should Grant have left Lee's front, he doubtless intends operations against Richmond along James River, probably on south side.

Petersburg being nearly defenseless would be captured before it could be re-enforced. Ransom's brigade and Hoke's division should then be returned at once.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 20. HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA., *June* 7, 1864.

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VII. Brigadier-General Gracie, with his brigade, after crossing to the south side of James River, will report to Major-General Johnson, commanding, Clay's house.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 132. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, June* 7, 1864.

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XX. Second Lieut. W. N. Bolling, Engineer Corps, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to General G. T. Beauregard, commanding Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, for assignment to duty with his chief engineer.

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XXVII. Maj. Francis Rawle, quartermaster, will relieve Maj. Clement Young, quartermaster of the Louisiana brigade, formed by the consolidation of Hays' and Stafford's brigades. Major Young, on being relieved, will report to Brig. Gen. J. L. Kemper, commanding reserve forces of Virginia, for assignment to duty.

XXVIII. The 200-pounder Parrott gun captured at Plymouth, N. C., will be turned over to the Secretary of the Navy.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 8, 1864—8 p. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: The enemy has been unusually quiet to-day along the whole extent of his lines, and nothing of importance has occurred. Two divisions of his cavalry, under General Sheridan, are reported to have crossed the Pamunkey yesterday at New Castle Ferry, and to have encamped last night at Dunkirk and Aylett's, on the Mattapony. They were accompanied by artillery, ambulances, wagons, and beef-cattle.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW,
Commanding Division:

An attack by Major-General Pickett upon the enemy in his front is arranged under certain contingencies for to-morrow morning, before day. If these contingencies should be filled the attack will be made and Pickett closely supported by General Field. If the enemy's withdrawal should be discovered to-night General Pickett will attack at once, without awaiting further orders. The lieutenant-general commanding desires that you will have your command in such a condition of readiness as to follow General Field rapidly after the enemy's line shall have been broken. General Field will follow Pickett, and the latter's attack will be made probably by a brigade front.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. M. SORREL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
June 8, 1864—8 p. m.

Brig. Gen. JOHN GREGG,
Commanding Field's Division:

An attack in force by Major-General Pickett upon the enemy in his front is proposed for to-morrow morning, dependant, however, upon information which may be received to-night. If the nature of this information should lead to it, the attack will be made about half past 2 o'clock to-morrow morning or, say, an hour before day. General Pickett has also orders, if he discovers the withdrawal of the enemy during the night, to push on at once and drive after the enemy. In either of these contingencies the lieutenant-general commanding directs that you follow General Pickett and support him with your whole strength and vigor.

As a preliminary to the attack which may be made, he desires that Colonel Bratton's skirmishers should be advanced at the same time with General Pickett's. Have every preparation made to-night for action to-morrow, and a sudden and disastrous blow to the enemy. It will be necessary for you to see General Pickett to-night for the arrangement of the necessary details of operations.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. M. SORREL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
June 8, 1864.

His Excellency President DAVIS:

MY DEAR SIR: Permit me to avail myself of personal privilege in submitting to you directly the annexed abstract of a plan for the better organization of our artillery. I so trouble you because of the very brief term of Congress remaining, and because the case has some points of real urgency. This plan is the result of conference

between General Long, chief of artillery Second Corps of this army, General Alexander, chief of artillery First Corps, and Colonel Walker, chief of artillery Third Corps. It was drawn up by General Long. It was forwarded to me about 3d May and by me forwarded, with remarks and approval, to General Lee on the same day. Whether the general has found time to notice and transmit it I do not know, but fear not, as he has been all the while since so pressed by weightier cares. If Congress cannot now attend to this whole matter, there are two points at least which it seems to me ought at once to be arranged. First, the introduction of a juster rule than number of guns to authorize needed field officers, and promotions. Cannot each battalion in the field be safely allowed two field officers, of such rank as the commanding general may approve? Second, the removal of the offensive restriction upon grade of chief artillery commanders. Why may not this have a commander above brigadier, as well as the others? Apart from personal considerations I deem this important, and personally I feel the injury of the imputation involved in the existing restrictions.

Believe me, as ever, most truly, your friend,

W. N. PENDLETON,

Brig. Gen. and Chief of Artillery, Army of N. Virginia.

[Inclosure.]

Abstract of a bill for the organization of field artillery.

A battery of field artillery to consist of four guns: For such a battery 100 to 125 effective privates, 4 sergeants, 8 corporals, 1 sergeant-major, 1 quartermaster-sergeant, 2 buglers, 2 artificers, 1 guidon, 1 captain, 2 first lieutenants, and 1 second lieutenant. Six-gun batteries now existing may so remain till their number of men is reduced to the above standard. The batteries shall be organized into battalions of three or four batteries, and whenever it can be done without detriment to the service, batteries from the same State shall be thrown together. To each battalion of four batteries there should be a lieutenant-colonel and major; 1 adjutant, with the rank of first lieutenant; assistant quartermaster, with the rank of captain; a chaplain, surgeon, and assistant surgeon. Battalions of three batteries may have officers of each grade, or fewer and of less rank, as commanding generals may recommend. Two or three battalions may constitute a regimental group, to be commanded by a colonel, entitled to 1 adjutant, with the rank of captain, and 1 aide, with the rank of first lieutenant. Two regimental groups to form a brigade, to be commanded by a brigadier-general. Staff of a brigade to be 1 adjutant-general, rank of captain; 1 ordnance officer, rank of captain; 1 inspector-general, rank of captain; 1 aide-de-camp, rank of first lieutenant; 1 quartermaster, rank of major; 1 commissary, rank of major, and 1 chief surgeon. The artillery of an army, provided it consists of two or more brigades, to constitute a corps of artillery, to be commanded by a general of superior rank to a brigadier-general, with a staff as designated by law for general of like grade. All appointments above the rank of captain to be made by selection.

[First indorsement.]

General Bragg for remarks. J. D.

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
September 14, 1864.

Respectfully returned to his Excellency the President.

I think the plan of giving officers according to number of guns, the gun being the unit in artillery, the best devised. But I do not think the proportion allowed judicious. Nor do I see any justice in restricting the artillery to the grade of brigadier. The artillery of an army of three corps like General Lee's is equivalent in importance to either corps of infantry.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Third indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 14, 1864.

Referred to General Lee for remarks, &c.

J. D.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
September 19, 1864.

The number of guns should, in my opinion, be the basis of the number and grade of the officers of artillery, every battalion of at least four batteries each should have two field officers to insure care and attention, off and on the field. An army of at least three corps should be entitled to a major-general as chief of artillery, and a brigadier as chief of artillery for each corps. The command of the artillery of each of the corps in this army is more difficult and responsible than a brigade of infantry.

Respectfully returned to his Excellency the President.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

Secretary of War for conference with Committee of Military Affairs as to legislation recommended in my annual message and in the report of Secretary of War.

J. D.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 133. } *Richmond, June* 8, 1864.

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IX. Capt. James B. Parramore, Fourth Florida Volunteers, will report to General R. E. Lee for assignment to duty with Brigadier-General Finegan.

X. Col. J. A. Gilmer, jr., Twenty-seventh North Carolina Regiment, is assigned to the command of the post and military prison at Salisbury, N. C. He will proceed to that place with the least practicable delay and relieve Capt. G. W. Alexander from duty at said post.

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XIII. The cavalry companies commanded by Capt. T. G. Barham and W. B. Smith, respectively, are attached to the Forty-second Virginia Battalion of Cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Robins,

thereby constituting a regiment to be known as the Twenty-fourth Regiment of Virginia Cavalry. Captains Barham and Smith will report with their companies to Lieutenant-Colonel Robins without delay.

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XVI. Brig. Gen. Gabriel J. Rains is assigned to the superintendency of all duties of torpedoes. All officers and agents employed on those duties will report to and receive their instructions from him; and all applications for service in this department will be made to him through the proper channels of correspondence.

XVII. The First Florida Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Hopkins, six companies, and the companies of Captains Mays, Stewart, Clarke, and Powers, of the Second Florida Battalion—Brevard's—will constitute the Tenth Regiment Florida Volunteers.

XVIII. The Fourth Florida Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel McClellan, seven companies, the companies of Captains Robinson and Ochus, of the Second Florida Battalion, and Captain Cullens' unattached company Florida Volunteers, will constitute the Eleventh Regiment Florida Volunteers.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 9, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: The enemy has been quiet to-day—apparently engaged in strengthening his intrenchments. Skirmishing on the lines has been very light.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 141. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *June* 9, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. B. D. Fry is temporarily assigned to the command of H. H. Walker's brigade, Heth's division, Hill's corps, and will report accordingly.

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By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. N. PENDLETON,
Commanding Artillery, Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I yesterday made an informal inspection of the two batteries of the Stuart Horse Artillery,

Thomson's and Hart's, camped above Meadow Bridge and serving with Major-General Hampton. The general condition of the batteries is very good; Thomson's especially. Great care has been taken of his horses by this active and efficient officer, and they are in excellent order. Hart's are not so good, but are fit for active service. The horses of both batteries are regularly supplied with corn, and grazed, and well groomed. They are now commanded in person by Major Chew, and are camped on the south side of the Chickahominy, near the Brook turnpike, about 5 or 6 miles from Richmond.

The losses in these batteries since my last report have been inconsiderable, and the companies are full. Thomson has 98 men for duty, and Hart about 112. The ordnance wagons are well supplied with ammunition, except Blakely. The limber chests and caissons are full, and the ammunition properly packed. The deficiencies in horses have been supplied by 100 horses recently supplied to the battalion, but some of these are indifferent. About 12 mules are much needed for the ordnance wagons. The batteries serving with Maj. Gen. Fitz. Lee will be inspected to-morrow or next day.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. ESTEN COOKE,
Captain and Assistant Inspector-General.

DUNLOP'S, *June* 9, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General B. BRAGG:

General Wise reports force of enemy, infantry, artillery, and cavalry, to have driven in at 8.30 a. m. his picket at Beasley's, on south side of Appomattox. Our artillery has opened. This movement must be a reconnaissance connected with Grant's future operations. The return soon as practicable of my troops sent to General Lee is again urged on War Department.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DUNLOP'S HOUSE, *June* 9, 1864—10.15 a. m.

General B. BRAGG:

General Wise reports force of enemy now in front of city works, one infantry and one cavalry regiment. He has opened on them with shells, but has elicited yet no reply.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DUNLOP'S HOUSE, *June* 9, 1864—10.45 a. m

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

General Wise urgently calls for re-enforcements to meet enemy advancing in force on Petersburg by City Point, Prince George, and Baxter roads. Have sent him all I can spare from the lines. Without the troops sent to General Lee I will have to elect between abandoning lines on Bermuda Neck and those of Petersburg. Please give me the views of the Government on the subject.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DUNLOP'S HOUSE, *June* 9, 1864—12 m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Enemy has erected an observatory at Cobb's which overlooks surrounding country. The 12-pounder Whitworth at arsenal is absolutely required to destroy it. Please send it by express forthwith, with ammunition complete.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DUNLOP'S HOUSE, *June* 9, 1864—1 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

General Wise reports enemy have taken works on Jerusalem plank road and are advancing into town. I cannot re-enforce line without abandoning lines on Bermuda Hundred Neck and probably be cut off from Drewry's Bluff and Richmond. Please order at once wishes and intentions of War Department.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

DUNLOP'S HOUSE, *June* 9, 1864—2.30 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

General Dearing telegraphs from Petersburg if city is to be saved send re-enforcements immediately. Enemy has taken intrenchments, and is advancing in force. I have none to send him without abandoning Bermuda Hundred lines.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DUNLOP'S HOUSE, *June* 9, 1864—3 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Enemy is now in possession of part of defensive works around Petersburg. Delay in sending re-enforcements will be fatal to that city, and to Richmond for its supplies.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DUNLOP'S HOUSE, *June* 9, 1864—6 p. m.

General B. BRAGG:

Enemy has been driven from Petersburg. We have the works again. He may, however, renew attack to morrow. Yankee cavalry reported to have gone down railroad on a raid. Necessity for troops here still urgent.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DUNLOP'S HOUSE, *June* 9, 1864—11.15 p. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

The force which attacked Petersburg is said to have come from Bermuda Hundred. It has retired from vicinity of city, but not known positively where gone to. The result of this reconnaissance will doubtless invite soon another attack. Gracie's brigade should be sent, as first ordered.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VA.,
Swift Creek, Va., June 9, 1864

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding C. S. Armies, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: The present movements of Grant's army have a significance which cannot have escaped your observation. He clearly seeks to move around Lee's forces, by an advance upon his left flank, in the direction of the James River, with a view to operate between that river and the Chickahominy, and in case of his meeting with no adequate resistance to plant himself on both sides of the former, throwing across it a pontoon bridge, as close to Chaffin's Bluff as circumstances may permit, and failing in this scheme, he may continue his rotary motion around Richmond, and attack by concentrating the whole of his army on the south side of the James River, using the fortified position at Bermuda Hundred Neck as a base for his operations.

In that hypothesis, our first object would seem to be to throw him off as far as practicable from his objective point—Richmond—unless the Government were to adopt the bold, and perhaps safer, policy of giving him battle, and decide at once the fate of that city, whilst we still remain with a comparatively compact, well-disciplined, and enthusiastic army in the field.

To accomplish this object the river battery at Howlett's should be completed without delay, and thoroughly armed. The river should be obstructed by rope works and torpedoes, so distributed as to leave passage for only one iron-clad at a time, which, in the meanwhile, should prevent the crossing of the river between that battery and Chaffin's Bluff.

My defensive line, now nearly completed, and extending from the river battery at Howlett's to Mrs. Dunn's house, would be held by Johnson's division.

The comparatively level and open country between these two points might be defended by a line of redoubts from Dunn's house to Swift Creek.

The short line west of Fort Clifton, between Swift Creek and the Appomattox, would be a barrier against any approach from the intersection of those two streams. The defensive line from Mrs. Dunn's to the Appomattox could be defended by a part of Hoke's division, while the rest, taking position in Petersburg, might hold it until re-enforcements from Lee's army were obtained. Two divisions of about 15,000 men in all would thus prevent any force of the enemy from penetrating between Drewry's Bluff and Petersburg and compel him to take the latter before he could venture a real advance on Richmond.

With these views hastily thrown on paper, I send you a statement* of the strength and organization of the forces at the lines around Petersburg, at Drewry's Bluff, and in front of Bermuda Hundred Neck, that you may judge of my resources and ability to face the impending contingencies for which I may, from moment to moment, have to provide.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

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* Not found, but see abstract from return, June 10, p. 890.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *June* 9, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General BEAUREGARD:

I have just received a dispatch from General Bragg's assistant adjutant-general, requesting me to forward an order to General Gracie not to move but to hold himself in readiness at a moment's notice. I have forwarded the dispatch to General Gracie.

Respectfully,

G. H. TERRETT,
Major, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 134. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, June* 9, 1864.

* * * * * * *

IX. Lieut. Col. Archer Anderson, assistant adjutant and inspector general, will proceed to the State of North Carolina upon special inspection duty. He will report to General B. Bragg for instructions.

* * * * * * *

XI. Surg. R. L. Brodie is relieved as medical director of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and assigned to duty as medical director of the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia.

XII. Surg. Samuel Choppin is relieved as medical inspector of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and assigned to duty as medical inspector of the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia.

* * * * * * *

XVI. Brig. Gen. Lawrence S. Baker, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to General G. T. Beauregard for assignment to duty in the Second District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, with headquarters at Goldsborough, N. C.

* * * * * * *

XXIX. Capt. Lewis E. Harvie, assistant commissary of subsistence, will report at once to Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., for assignment to temporary duty with Brig. Gen. G. W. C. Lee, commanding Local Defense Troops.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 10, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: The enemy has made no movement to-day. The skirmishing along the lines has been somewhat more active and systematic than during the last two days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Gaines' Mill, June 10, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday. With my present information as to the movements of the enemy's cavalry I am unable to determine their destination. The last dispatch from General Hampton, dated at Frederick's Hall to-day, states that they encamped last night at New Market, which is on the road from Chilesburg to Waller's Church, General Hampton's own command being nearly west of them at Frederick's Hall. My first impression was that the object of the expedition was to cooperate with the forces under General Hunter in the valley, and there is nothing as yet in their movements inconsistent with this idea. They may intend to strike for the James River above Richmond, and cross to the south side to destroy the Danville road. I think it very important that we should be on our guard against such an attempt, and that parties should be held in readiness to burn the bridges over the river upon their approach. These parties should be under the direction of intelligent and cool men, for fear the bridges might be prematurely fired; and good scouts sent out on the roads to give timely notice of the approach of the enemy. I suppose you will be able to obtain men of the character indicated among the reserve forces of that section.

I will keep you advised as far as I can of the enemy's movements, and should he turn toward the river our cavalry under General Hampton will endeavor to protect the bridges, and, unable to do so, will aid the parties charged with burning them. Under existing circumstances I think it would be best to make every preparation to repair the railroad and the bridges to be in readiness for a more favorable opportunity to restore travel, but it would not be prudent to begin the work now. I am glad to learn that you are exerting yourself to accumulate stores for the army. No effort should be spared to provide against such interruption of our transportation as the enemy's superiority in cavalry may enable him to effect. If practicable, I hope that provision will be made to continue the supply of vegetables. It greatly promotes the health and comfort of the men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
June 10, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel BALDWIN,
Chief of Ordnance, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: I saw noticed in a recent paper a stink-shell, and it seems to me such missiles might be made useful to some extent at least. We have a few howitzers, chiefly 12-pounders, which can be used somewhat as mortars. They can throw shells occasionally in or near the enemy's trenches. The question is whether the explosion can be combined with suffocating effect of certain offensive gases, or whether apart from explosion such gases may not be emitted from a continuously burning composition as to render the vicinity of

each falling shell intolerable. It seems at least worth a trial. The close proximity of our lines and those of the enemy suggests also another agency. Should we at any time advance for assault, hand-grenades might do important service in driving off the enemy as we approach his breast-works. Have we any made? If so, of what pattern, weight, &c., and how are they put up for transportation? If none are on hand would it not be well to have some prepared very soon?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

P. S.—Can you get for us two Napoleon guns to give to General Long in lieu of two which he recently got from General W. H. F. Lee's horse artillery (McGregor's battery) in exchange for two 3-inch rifles? General Long thinks the Napoleons he thus got (bronze) too much worn, served, and honeycombed to be properly serviceable in the field.

W. N. P.

[First indorsement.]

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
June 10, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Colonel Gorgas.

Are any 12-pounder Napoleons on hand for General Long; any stink-balls; any hand-grenades?

BRISCOE G. BALDWIN,
Lieut. Col., Chief of Ordance, Army of Northern Virginia.

[Second indorsement.]

JUNE 10, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

I have no Napoleons now ready; will have some in ten days. Have 1,000 hand-grenades, U. S. pattern, with Rains' sensitive tube (very superior, explode always); have ordered 1,000 more to-day. Also have some that answer tolerably well with 6-pounder spherical case. Stink-balls, none on hand; don't keep them; will make if ordered.

W. LE ROY BROWN,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

SWIFT CREEK, *June* 10, 1864—10.10 p. m.
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

General BRAGG:

Information just received that considerable column of the enemy's infantry has crossed this evening to the south side of the Appomattox, indicating another attack on Petersburg. Without immediate re-enforcements we shall lose that city or our lines in front of Bermuda Landing.

G. T. BEAUREGARD,
General.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *June* 10, 1864.

General BRAGG:

The lookout near Cox's barn reports a large force of enemy moving in line of battle toward Howlett's house.

J. M. MAURY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 21. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF N. C. AND S. VA., *June* 10, 1864.

* * * * * * *

IV. Gracie's brigade will march at once and report to Maj. Gen. B. R. Johnson to relieve Page's brigade in the trenches. The brigade will march by the shortest and quickest route. General Gracie will report sufficiently in advance of his brigade to receive orders from General Johnson as to its location.

By command of General Beauregard:

JNO. M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 135. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, June* 10, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XV. Col. R. E. Withers, in addition to his duties as commandant post, Danville, Va., will report to Brig. Gen. J. L. Kemper, commanding reserve forces of Virginia, for the purpose of organizing, instructing, and commanding the reserves at Danville, Va.

* * * * * * *

XVII. Brig. Gen. W. M. Gardner, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to Maj. Gen. Robert Ransom, jr., commanding Department of Richmond, for assignment to duty.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from return of the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, General G. T. Beauregard commanding, for June 10, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.		Aggregate present and absent last return.
	Officers.	Men.				Heavy.	Field.	
General staff	15	.....	15	15	15	.....	.....	15
Johnson's division:								
Staff	7	9	9	16	18	.....	.....	18
Infantry	351	3,996	4,524	5,442	7,949	.....	.....	7,332
Artillery	29	559	591	636	836	.....	23	836
Total Johnson's division	387	4,564	5,124	6,094	8,803	.....	23	8,186
First Military District:								
Staff	3	5	5	8	8	.....	.....	8
Infantry	193	2,298	2,438	2,857	3,750	.....	.....	3,654
Light artillery	11	273	286	311	402	.....	6	403
Heavy artillery	5	90	93	112	114	.....	.....	114
Independent signal corps	8	181	191	211	246	.....	.....	249
Total First Military District	220	2,847	3,013	3,499	4,520	.....	6	4,428

Abstract from return of the Department of North Carolina, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.		Aggregate present and absent last return.
	Officers.	Men.				Heavy.	Field.	
Second Military District *a*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Third Military District:								
Staff	13	2	2	15	16	....	.....	18
Infantry	7	238	256	278	378	.....	.....	377
Light artillery	30	732	752	804	901	.....	.....	902
Heavy artillery	114	2,207	2,827	3,291	3,998	.....	.....	3,952
Cavalry	12	100	116	136	162	.....	.....	163
Company engineer troops and signal corps.	4	53	128	136	151	.....	.....	152
Total Third Military District	180	3,332	4,081	4,660	5,606	.....	.....	5,564
Brig. Gen. James Dearing and staff	6	15	.....	21	21	.....	.....	.....
Cavalry Brigade	120	1,791	.....	2,314	2,937	.....	.....	.....
Total Cavalry Brigade	126	1,806	.....	2,335	2,958	.....	.....	.....
Drewry's Bluff:								
Smith's battalion	18	289	359	433	502	17	.....	504
Terrett's battalion marines	7	51	.....	76	270	.....	.....	.....
Total Drewry's Bluff	25	340	359	509	772	17	.....	504
Grand total	953	12,889	12,592	17,112	22,074	17	29	18,697

a Not reported.

Organization of troops in the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia, commanded by General G. T. Beauregard, C. S. Army, June 10, 1864.

JOHNSON'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. BUSHROD R. JOHNSON.

Elliott's Brigade.

17th South Carolina, Col. J. F. McMaster.
18th South Carolina, Col. W. H. Wallace.
22d South Carolina, Capt. A. C. Peace.
23d South Carolina, Col. Henry L. Benbow.
26th South Carolina, Col. Alex. D. Smith.
Holcombe Legion South Carolina Infantry (detached at Stony Creek).

Johnson's Brigade.

17th Tennessee, 23d Tennessee, Col. R. H. Keeble.
25th Tennessee, 44th Tennessee, Col. John S. Fulton.
63d Tennessee, Col. Abraham Fulkerson.

Wise's Brigade.

26th Virginia, Lieut. Col. J. Calvin Councill.
34th Virginia, Col. John T. Goode.
46th Virginia (detached at Petersburg).
59th Virginia, Col. William B. Tabb.

Artillery.

Bradford's (Mississippi) battery, Capt. William D. Bradford.
Cumming's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. James D. Cumming.
Miller's (North Carolina) battery, Capt. John O. Miller.
Pegram's (Virginia) battery. Capt. Richard G. Pegram.
Slaten's (Georgia) battery, Capt. C. W. Slaten.
Wright's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Samuel T. Wright.

FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT.

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE.

South Side Appomattox.

44th Virginia Battalion, Maj. Peter V. Batte.
46th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Peyton Wise.
Archer's battalion, Maj. F. H. Archer.
Hood's battalion, Maj. William H. Hood.
Scouts [Company G, 46th Virginia Infantry], Lieut. Arthur V. Sutherland.

Mattoax Bridge (Richmond and Danville Railroad).

18th Georgia Battalion,
Virginia Reserves,
Two field pieces,
} Maj. William S. Basinger.

Hicksford.

Bradford's section of Confederate Guards Artillery,
Confederate States Zouave Battalion,
62d Georgia, Company H (artillery),
Virginia Reserves,
} Lieut. Col. Alfred Coppens.

Swift Creek.

64th Georgia, Capt. T. J. Pritchett.
34th Virginia, Capt. Thomas B. Montague.
1st North Carolina Artillery (three companies), Lieut. Col. Henry T. Guion.

Stony Creek.

Holcombe Legion (four companies), Lieut. Col. William J. Crawley, Stony Creek.
Holcombe Legion (four companies), Lieut. Col. William J. Crawley, Nottoway bridge.
Holcombe Legion (two companies), Lieut. Col. William J. Crawley, Rowanty bridge.
Two field pieces, Stony Creek.
Two field pieces, Nottoway.

Vicinity of Petersburg.

Martin's (Virginia) battery, Capt. S. Taylor Martin.
Sturdivant's (Virginia) battery, Capt. N. A. Sturdivant.

Independent Signal Corps.

Maj. JAMES F. MILLIGAN.

SECOND MILITARY DISTRICT.

Infantry.

50th North Carolina Troops (five companies), Plymouth.
50th North Carolina Troops (five companies), Washington.
68th North Carolina State Troops.
Whitford's State regiment.
Kinston provost guard.
Reserves, North Carolina (about 500).

Light Artillery.

Andrews' (Alabama) battery.
Section Cumming's (North Carolina) battery.
Dickson's (North Carolina) battery.
Kelly's (South Carolina) battery.
Starr's (North Carolina) battery.
Webb's (North Carolina) battery.

Heavy Artillery.

10th North Carolina Battalion (two companies).
Heavy artillery (one company).

Cavalry.

6th Regiment North Carolina Cavalry.
North Carolina State Cavalry (two companies).

DEARING'S CAVALRY BRIGADE.

7th C. S. Cavalry, Col. V. H. Taliaferro.
62d Georgia Cavalry, Col. Joel R. Griffin.
59th North Carolina [4th North Carolina Cavalry], Col. Dennis D. Ferebee.
65th North Carolina [6th North Carolina Cavalry], Col. George N. Folk.
Battalion Virginia Cavalry, Capt. Theodore G. Barham.
Battery (Virginia) light artillery, Capt. Edward Graham.

DREWRY'S BLUFF.

Marine battalion, Maj. George H. Terrett.
Smith's battalion, Maj. Francis W. Smith.

THIRD MILITARY DISTRICT.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM H. C. WHITING.

DEFENSES MOUTH CAPE FEAR.

Brig. Gen. LOUIS HÉBERT.

Fort Fisher.

13th North Carolina Battalion, Company D, Capt. Zachariah T. Adams.
36th North Carolina Troops (eight companies), Col. William Lamb.

Fort Caswell.

1st North Carolina Battalion (three companies), Col. T. M. Jones.
3d North Carolina Battalion, Company C, Capt. Julian G. Moore.
Sampson (North Carolina) Artillery, Capt. Abner A. Moseley.

Fort Campbell.

1st Battalion North Carolina Troops (one company),
36th North Carolina Troops (one company),
40th North Carolina Troops (one company), } Lieut. Col. John D. Taylor.
Coast Guard (one company), Capt. John W. Galloway.

Fort Holmes.

3d North Carolina Battalion, Company B,
40th North Carolina Troops (eight companies), } Col. John J. Hedrick.

Smithville.

10th North Carolina Battalion (two companies),
Light artillery (one company), } Maj. James Reilly.

MAGNOLIA.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON.

10th North Carolina Battalion (one company), Capt. Hammitt J. Harriss.
7th Confederate Cavalry (two companies), Capts. Frederick A. Beazley and P. A. S. Morris.

MASONBOROUGH SOUND.

10th North Carolina Battalion (one company), Capt. Charles M. T. McCauley.
Virginia battery, Capt. Andrew B. Paris.

WILMINGTON.

10th North Carolina Battalion (two companies).
36th North Carolina Troops (one company).
40th North Carolina Troops (one company).
Unattached (two companies).
Boggs' battalion artillery.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 11, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: The enemy has been quiet to-day, with the usual skirmishing along the lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS TEXAS BRIGADE,
June 11, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:

GENERAL: A short time ago I took the liberty of submitting a paper concerning an increase of the numbers of the Texas Brigade in the Army of Northern Virginia. Since that paper was written circumstances have so changed that it is not probable my proposition can be favorably considered. The proposition that was made was submitted upon a suggestion from the general commanding the army, that he desired me to use every effort to have the numbers of the brigade increased. It is now desired to submit a different proposition. Since the late battles, the number of muskets in this brigade is about 430; at our last field return it was 435. This is a very small number to perform the duties of a brigade, nor do I think it for the benefit of the service that an officer having the rank and pay of a brigadier-general be assigned to the command of so small a number of muskets. There are men of this brigade beyond the Mississippi River, but as many efforts have been made to procure their return to duty, and have all failed to effect the end desired, it is believed to be impracticable to secure their presence with this command except by having an organized force brought to this side of the Mississippi River under whose guard these absentees can be forced to return. The number of men fit for duty who are beyond the river and belong to this brigade is thought to be larger than the number present.

In addition to this it is thought to be for the interest of the service that a considerable force of the trans-Mississippi troops be brought to this army. It is not probable that the enemy will be formidable beyond the Mississippi until they accomplish such results here as are satisfactory to them. In the mean time the troops beyond the river are not so valuable as they would be here, and it is for the army here to prevent the future war on the other side of the river. Having the opinion just stated, I propose to bring to this side of the Mississippi, if authorized by the War Department, such a force as it is thought may be properly spared from beyond the Mississippi River. I further propose to bring such number of horses as may be needed here and can be procured beyond the river It is suggested that in a march across the country many unbroken horses, which can be procured much more easily than gentle ones, might be well broken. I respectfully suggest for the decision of the authorities.

Very respectfully,

JOHN GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIELD'S DIVISION,
June 11, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

I earnestly recommend that some Texas and Arkansas regiments be brought from the Trans-Mississippi Department and assigned to this brigade. This brigade has fought too long and gallantly to be permitted to disappear from pure exhaustion of men. If several regiments from Texas were brought here, they would serve as a nucleus about which the absentees from the brigade could be collected and returned.

C. W. FIELD,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
June 11, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, with a hearty approval of the proposition to increase the strength of Gregg's brigade by the means which he suggests, or such other as may seem more suitable and convenient.

R. H. ANDERSON,
Lieutenant-General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 11, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the honorable Secretary of War, with the request that any Texas regiments that can be spared from the Trans-Mississippi Department, as well as all the men belonging to Gregg's brigade in that department fit for duty, be sent to this army as soon as practicable. General Gregg cannot be spared from this army at this time, when every man is wanted at his post.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
June 18, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General Bragg.

By order of Adjutant and Inspector General:

H. L. CLAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, &c.,
Richmond, June 20, 1864.

Respectfully returned to Adjutant-General.

It seems to me an efficient inspector had better be sent to the trans-Mississippi, with complete list of absentees and authority to enforce former orders to send them back, if necessary, under guard.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

SWIFT CREEK, *June* 11, 1864—2 a. m.

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

Information of enemy's crossing from Bermuda Hundred to south side of Appomattox came from officer on picket toward Port Wal-

thall. Force not given; will be sufficient, probably, to insure success if attack on Petersburg be made after reconnaissance of the 9th instant.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

JUNE 11, 1864.

General BEAUREGARD,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I am so much disturbed about our condition, but especially about our relations to Petersburg, that you must excuse me for a suggestion. It seems to me that there is but one way to save the country, and bring the authorities to their senses, and that is to say "I cannot guard Bermuda Hundred and Petersburg both, with my present forces. I have decided that Petersburg is the important point and will withdraw my whole command to that place to-night." It is arrant nonsense for Lee to say that Grant can't make a night march without his knowing it. Has not Grant slipped around him four times already? Did not Burnside retire from Fredericksburg, and Hooker from the Wilderness, without his knowing it? Grant can get 10,000 or 20,000 men to Westover and Lee know nothing of it. What then is to become of Petersburg? Its loss surely involves that of Richmond—perhaps of the Confederacy. An earnest appeal is called for now, else a terrible disaster may, and I think will, befall us.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General and Aide-de-Camp.

[Indorsement.]

SWIFT CREEK, VA., *June* 12, 1864.

General HILL:

I fully concur in the above views, which have been already communicated to the Government in substance if not in words. I consider it useless again to do so, as it would produce no good results and my records are already "all right." I shall continue to hold "the lines" as long as there is the slightest hope of being able to do so with success and without endangering Petersburg.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

DUNLOP'S, *June* 11, 1864—3.30 [p. m.].

Brigadier-General GRACIE:

You are ordered to report with your brigade immediately to Major-General Johnson. Order is sent by courier. Start soon as practicable in advance of brigade to receive orders as to position, so as to have as much time as possible.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT, *June* 11, 1864—1.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. R. E. Colston will assume the command of Sixty-fourth Georgia Regiment, the reserve (Invalid Corps), and militia. The Invalid Corps will be stationed at the forks of the Baxter and Jerusalem

roads. The Sixty-fourth Georgia will be stationed from Battery No. 16 to No. 27, inclusive, and Archer's militia from No. 27 extending to the right as far as they will reach.

By command of Brigadier-General Wise:

JAMES H. PEARCE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, June 12, 1864.

His Excellency JEFF. DAVIS,
President:

Mr. PRESIDENT: The dispatches from Western Virginia induce me to invite your attention again to the inadequacy of our forces in that section. By the lowest estimate the enemy now has some 14,000 men. It seems well settled that Pope is to join with 4,000 more. To oppose this we have under Breckinridge, including all fragments and all arms, about 9,000—not more than 5,000 of them can be considered reliable. The crude and disorganized mounted detachments, demoralized by licensed marauding in East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia, have already justified the estimate formed of them. It seems to me a pressing necessity to send at least 6,000 good troops to re-enforce Breckinridge.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG.

[Indorsement.]

JUNE 13, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

I am inclined to think the force of the enemy exaggerated and our own troops unduly depreciated, but I concur in thinking re-enforcements, if they can be possibly spared, very desirable.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 12, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: During the late movements of the army, the condition of General Ewell's health rendered it proper that he should be relieved temporarily from the command of his corps. Although now restored to his usual health, I think the labor and exposure to which he would be inevitably exposed would at this time again incapacitate him for field service. The general, who has all the feelings of a good soldier, differs from me in this opinion, and is not only willing but anxious to resume his command. I, however, think in the present emergency it would jeopardize his life; and should his strength fail, it would prove disadvantageous to the service. I, therefore, propose that he be placed on some duty attended with less labor and exposure. It has occurred to me that the command of the Defenses of Richmond would be more in accordance with his state of health, and give him a position where he could perform valuable service. I cordially recommend that he be placed on this duty unless circumstances exist

of which I am unaware which render it improper. This arrangement is intended to be temporary, as it is proposed to replace him in command of his corps after the present occasion for extraordinary exertion shall have passed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES,
Richmond, June 12, 1864.

General SAMUEL COOPER:

GENERAL: To save time General R. Ransom was ordered yesterday from these headquarters to send Gracie's brigade to south side James River to report to General Beauregard. Please issue order to cover the movement.

For General Bragg:

I am, general, very respectfully,

JNO. B. SALE,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
Near Bottom's Bridge, June 12, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Armies of the Confederate States:

SIR: Will you please bring to the immediate attention of General Bragg a cause which is producing great discontent among the troops of my command. It appears that to the troops of the Army of Northern Virginia the ration issued is very much larger than the same given to my troops, although they are doing the same duty. For instance, Kirkland's brigade, Army of Northern Virginia, is guarding the York River railroad bridge over Chickahominy, and the local troops are performing the same service at Bottom's Bridge; the former receive a half pound of meat, flour bread (at least, in part), rice, pease, sugar, coffee, and vegetables; the local troops get but one-fifth pound of meat, and corn bread. If they receive sugar and coffee (only 6 pounds of one and three of the other to 100 rations) the meat is stopped. The same exists as to all my command. It very naturally and justly produces discontent. If the rations can be increased for the whole of the Army of Northern Virginia it seems to me it ought to be done for the troops who are on exactly the same service in this department. I wrote to Colonel Northrop, and he replied that all would be reduced to the same; but nearly a week has passed and the same distinction is made. I trust the general commanding will have proper orders given in the matter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

JUNE 13, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the honorable Secretary of War.

Such discrimination must produce discontent, and should be corrected.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

JUNE 13, 1864.

COMMISSARY-GENERAL:

It seems but just that troops serving so near together and on like duty should receive similar allowances. The local troops are not sufficiently numerous to make any serious difference, and I therefore recommend like rations to them.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Third indorsement.]

OFFICE COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,
June 16, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the honorable Secretary of War.

When the troops of the Army of Northern Virginia had been fighting every day for twenty days, during a part of which time they had received only one-quarter pound of meat when other troops were getting one-third, on the recommendation of the chief commissary the meat ration was increased to one-half pound. On the 1st of June, the twenty-sixth day of the fighting, application was made for whisky to be issued to them, on the ground that they were broken down and needed the stimulant. It being impossible to issue the whisky, coffee and sugar were given in lieu of it as an extra issue. On the 11th June, when the army had enjoyed a little rest and had to some extent recovered from the effect of continuous marching and fighting, the meat ration was reduced to one-third pound. The extra issue of coffee and sugar was and is continued on the ground that it is absolutely necessary, not on account of what the men are doing, but what they have gone through. As recommended by the Secretary of War an order has been given for the extra issue of coffee and sugar to be made to the local troops now serving in the field. How long it will be possible to continue to issue the present ration will depend on the success in running the blockade, and the amount of money gotten from the Treasury. The funds now received are hardly more than enough to pay hospital expenses, and entirely inadequate to purchase a sufficiency of food for the army.

L. B. NORTHROP,
Commissary-General of Subsistence.

[Fourth indorsement.]

JUNE 18, 1864.

Referred to General Bragg.

The course of the Commissary-General, as above stated, is approved under the circumstances.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Fifth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
Richmond, June 20, 1864.

Respectfully referred again to the honorable Secretary of War.

The case as stated by the Commissary-General does not meet the complaint. General Ransom, after stating the discrimination made

against the local troops, says: "The same exists as to all my command." This includes Gracie's and Ransom's brigades, which had done and were still doing the same service as the Army of Northern Virginia, both having been longer in active motion.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Sixth indorsement.]

JUNE 23, 1864.

COMMISSARY-GENERAL:

All the troops are now, I suppose, placed on the same footing. This should be done, as I understood orally it was your purpose to so arrange the matter.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Seventh indorsement.]

OFFICE COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,
June 23, 1864.

It being presumed that the Secretary of War does not concur in the comments of General Bragg, no remark upon the inaccuracy is deemed necessary. The troops are now all upon the same footing.

Respectfully returned to the Secretary of War.

L. B. NORTHROP,
Commissary-General of Subsistence.

CLOVER HILL, *Chesterfield, June* 12, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

DEAR SIR: When I had the pleasure to see you in Richmond last week I called your attention to the fact that there were two bridges over the Appomattox River in this neighborhood within 3 or 4 miles of each other, and that I learned that the Government had, to prevent raiding parties from entering or leaving with impunity our country, ordered the destruction of one of the bridges. This you informed me was true, and that orders would be given for the removal of the other. My information is that to this time, if such orders have been given, they have not been executed. I write now, most respectfully, to suggest to you that if the destruction of one bridge is a military necessity, the destruction of the other must follow; in fact, the destruction of Bevill's Bridge would seem to me to be a greater necessity than Goode's Bridge, for the reason that it is about midway between the Danville and South Side railroads, and if the enemy meant an attack upon both roads their policy would evidently be to pass Bevill's (the bridge now standing) rather than Goode's, if not destroyed.

I have undertaken to give you, very briefly, the state of things so far as the public interest is concerned in regard to the bridges, but I do not hesitate to add that some dissatisfaction is felt by the citizens in the neighborhood of Bevill's Bridge, from the reflection that by one bridge being destroyed a raiding party, if one comes, must necessarily be thrown upon them. They are willing to take the chances, but want the chances to be equal. I trust you will do our people the kindness to give this subject your attention and do what you think is the best in the premises.

Very truly, your friend and obedient servant,

JAMES H. COX.

[First indorsement.]

JUNE 18, 1864.

ENGINEER BUREAU:

Have you taken any steps to have the timbers removed or the bridges destroyed across the Appomattox other than the one known, I believe, as Goode's Bridge? There is one near the terminus of Clover Hill Mountains, which would only cause, I am informed, a detour of from 3 to 5 miles. That, and indeed any others which might enable the raiding parties or the enemy's forces from above to cross, should be effectually crippled or destroyed at once.

J. A. SEDDON.

[Second indorsement.]

ENGINEER BUREAU,
June 20, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the honorable Secretary of War.
The partial destruction of Bevill's Bridge, &c., has been ordered.

A. L. RIVES,
Colonel and Acting Chief of Bureau.

[JUNE 12, 1864.—For Wise's congratulatory orders to his command for the defense of Petersburg on 9th instant, see Part II, p. 316.]

DREWRY'S BLUFF, *June* 16, 1864—8 p. m.

General WADE HAMPTON, *Pole Cat Station:*

Dispatches of to-day received. Our cavalry north and south of Chickahominy have been advised of movements of bearer of dispatches; also to endeavor to ascertain movements of Sheridan, and to unite with you when practicable to crush him. Keep them advised of his movements.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 17, 1864.

General WADE HAMPTON,
Aenon Church (via Hanover Junction):

Grant's army is chiefly on south side of James River. Chambliss has been ordered to co-operate with you. Communicate with him.

R. E. LEE.

Telegraph operator please send.

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 18, 1864.

General WADE HAMPTON,
Aenon Church (via Hanover Junction):

If Sheridan escapes you and gets to his transports at the White House you must lose no time in moving your entire command to our right near Petersburg. Keep yourself thoroughly advised of his movements and intentions as far as practicable.

R. E. LEE,
General.

BOTTOM'S BRIDGE, *June* 22, 1864—8 p. m.

General B. BRAGG:

Scouts report enemy moving out from White House with their advance at Talleysville, at 4 this afternoon. I think they will cross at Forge Bridge or below, as they have pontoons, and make their way to James River. Please acknowledge receiving this.

FITZ. LEE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Chaffin's, June 22, 1864.

Maj. C. PICKETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No change reported this morning in condition of affairs on this side of the James. General Hampton had his headquarters last night at Bottom's Bridge. General Heth's command went down to the vicinity of Deep Bottom at daylight this morning. Brig. Gen. G. W. C. Lee is with General Heth.

In the absence of Brig. Gen. G. W. C. Lee:

RICHARD H. COX,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

CHAFFIN'S, *June* 22, 1864.

General R. E. LEE:

General Bragg has ordered a detachment of Pemberton's command and the Sixtieth Alabama, at New Market, to Bottom's Bridge to report to General Wade Hampton. I send this information lest circumstances south of the river should make it unadvisable.

R. S. EWELL.

JUNE 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR:

The Sixtieth Alabama Regiment has been doing provost duty in Richmond. Pemberton's battalion is a part of the heavy artillery force under Lieutenant-Colonel Pemberton. Owing to the weakness of the forces under General G. W. C. Lee, the Sixtieth Alabama and the battalion were ordered to report to him, and were placed by General Lee at New Market Hill. The orders of General Bragg to General Ewell directing force to be sent to General Hampton have been countermanded.

H. HETH,
Major-General.

JUNE 23, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR:

General Hampton reports that Sheridan is moving toward Long Bridge and Forge Bridge, and that he, Hampton, would reach White Oak Swamp at 1 a. m. The cavalry force reported to be crossing at the pontoon bridge is doubtless moving to unite with Sheridan.

H. HETH,
Major-General.

JUNE 24, 1864—6 [p. m.].

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army of Northern Virginia:

General Ewell and myself have just returned from the front. No change in the enemy's position or numbers as far as can be ascertained. General Ewell, as well as myself, thinks that after Sheridan's position is fixed, provided he crosses the river, and should there be no acquisition to the enemy's force of infantry on this side, that the brigades of Cooke and Davis might withdraw if needed. The only reliable information from Sheridan is that yesterday, the 23d. Chambliss engaged him near Charles City Court-House, and there has been skirmishing near the same point to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. HETH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 25, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON:

GENERAL: Your note of to-day from Phillips' house has just been received. I am rejoiced at your success. I thank you and the officers and men of your command for the gallantry and determination with which they have assaulted Sheridan's forces and caused his expedition to end in defeat. So soon as Sheridan crosses the river I wish you to join me.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE.

JUNE 25, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT:

The following dispatch has just been received from General Hampton:

We routed Gregg's division thoroughly last evening, charging them for 5 or 6 miles. Their loss was heavy.

H. HETH,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 25, 1864

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: No change in my front as to position or number of the enemy. Probably about 2,000 on this side, strongly intrenched on river-bank and supported by two or more gun-boats. The object appears to be to hold the position on this side, said to be a favorable one for us. Sheridan, I believe, is crossing James River. When Sheridan's position is fixed my two brigades will return.

H. HETH,
Major-General.

JUNE 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. FITZ. LEE:

Telegram received. If there is nothing to detain your command on north side James, the general commanding desires your division to come on this way, following Hampton's.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ALTERNATE DESIGNATIONS

OF

ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS VOLUME.*

Abbot's (Henry L.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops*, 1*st Regiment.*
Abbott's (Joseph C.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops*, 7*th Regiment.*
Adams' (Zachariah T.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate*, 13*th Battalion, Battery D.*
Addicks' (Thomas H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops*, 157*th Regiment.*
Aiken's (Hugh K.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops*, 6*th Regiment.*
Alford's (Samuel M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops*, 3*d Regiment.*
Allen's (Richard J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union*, 1*st Regiment.*
Allen's (Robert C.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate*, 28*th Regiment.*
Ames' (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored*, 6*th Regiment.*
Anderson's (Hiram, jr.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops*, 92*d Regiment.*
Andrews' (William G.) **Artillery.** See *Montgomery True Blues, Artillery, post.*
Angel's (James R.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops*, 3*d Regiment, Battery K.*
Archer's (F. H.) **Reserves.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Armistead's (A. D.) **Artillery.** See *Mathews Artillery, post.*
Armstrong's (James B.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops*, 134*th Regiment.*
Arnold's (Abraham K.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars*, 5*th Regiment.*
Arnold's (William A.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops*, 1*st Regiment, Battery A.*
Arsenal Battalion, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate*, 5*th Battalion, Local Defense.*
Ashby's (George E.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops*, 3*d Regiment, Battery E.*
Atwill's (James W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union*, 1*st Regiment.*
Avery's (Isaac E.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate*, 6*th Regiment.*
Aylett's (William R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate*, 53*d Regiment.*
Bailey's (Edward L.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops*, 2*d Regiment.*
Baker's (John A.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate*, 3*d Regiment.*
Baker's (Leroy A.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops*, 39*th Regiment.*
Ballenger's (Marcus R.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops*, 23*d Regiment.*
Barham's (Theodore G.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Barnum's (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops*, 16*th Regiment.*
Bassett's (Isaac C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops*, 82*d Regiment.*
Bates' (John F.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops*, 99*th Regiment.*
Batte's (Peter V.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate*, 44*th Battalion.*
Beardsley's (William E.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops*, 6*th Regiment.*
Beazley's (Frederick A.) **Cavalry.** See *Confederate Troops, Regulars*, 7*th Regiment.*
Beecher's (Henry B.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars*, 5*th Regiment, Battery A.*
Beger's (Charles) **Artillery.** See *Wisconsin Troops*, 2*d Battery.*
Belger's (James) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops*, 1*st Regiment, Battery F.*
Bell's (Louis) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops*, 4*th Regiment.*

* References, unless otherwise indicated, are to index following.

Benbow's (Henry L.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Berkeley's (Norbourne) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*
Biddle's (William M.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Bird's (P. B.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 6th Battalion.*
Blaisdell's (William) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Blount's (Joseph G.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Boggs' (Francis J.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 12th Battalion.*
Bonaud's (A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 28th Battalion.*
Bowen's (George K.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 188th Regiment.*
Boyd's (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Bradford's (William D.) **Artillery.** See *Confederate Guards, Artillery, post.*
Bradshaw's (C. W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 42d Regiment.*
Brevard's (Theodore W.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 2d Battalion.*
Brinton's (Joseph P.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Brinton's (William P.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Brown's (Ridgely) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion.*
Brown's (T. Frederick) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
Buffum's (Martin P.) **Infantry.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Burns' (Michael W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 73d Regiment.*
Burpee's (Thomas F.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Butler's (Lewis) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 67th Regiment.*
Cameron's (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Campbell's (Edward) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 85th Regiment.*
Campbell's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 76th Regiment.*
Capron's (Willis C.) **Cavalry.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Caroline Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Carrington's (Henry A.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 18th Regiment.*
Cary's (N. R.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Battalion.*
Cary's (R. Milton) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*
Caskie's (William H.) **Artillery.** See *Hampden Artillery, post.*
Chamberlain's (Abial G.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 37th Regiment.*
Chaplin's (Daniel) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Maine Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Charleston City Battalion, Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Cherry's (John N.) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Chesterfield Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Choate's (Francis C.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment, Battery B.*
City Battalion, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Battalion.*
Claassen's (Peter J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 132d Regiment.*
Clapp's (Dexter E.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 38th Regiment.*
Clarke's (M. J.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 2d Battalion.*
Clarke's (Robert) **Infantry.** See *District of Columbia Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Clarke's (William J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 24th Regiment.*
Clarke's (Will W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 85th Regiment.*
Clayton's (Theodore) **Cavalry.** See *Purnell Legion, Cavalry, post.*
Clendenin's (David R.) **Cavalry.** See *Illinois Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Coast Guard, Cavalry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
Cochran's (Thomas A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 103d Regiment.*
Coit's (Charles M.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Cole's (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment.*
Collins' (Patrick) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 14th Regiment.*
Confederate Guards, Artillery. See *Mississippi Troops.*
Confederate States Zouaves, Infantry. See *Alfred Coppens' Infantry, post.*
Conger's (Everton J.) **Cavalry.** See *District of Columbia Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Conine's (James W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 5th Regiment.*

Conner's (Stephen) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Cooper's (Frederick) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Cooper's (William C.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 142d Regiment.*
Coppens' (Alfred) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops.*
Coughlin's (John) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Councill's (J. Calvin) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment*
Crane's (James P.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Crawley's (William J.) **Infantry.** See *Holcombe Legion, post.*
Cullen's (Edgar M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 96th Regiment.*
Cullens' Infantry. See *Florida Troops.*
Cumming's (James D.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion, Battery C.*
Cummings' (Emory) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 23d Battalion.*
Curtis' (N. Martin) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 142d Regiment.*
Dabney's (William J.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 20th Battalion, Battery E.*
Dandy's (George B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 100th Regiment.*
Day's (Luther) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 17th Regiment.*
De Forest's (Jacob J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 81st Regiment.*
Delehunt's (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 84th Regiment.*
Dement's (William F.) **Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 1st Battery.*
Dey's (Charles W.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
Di Cesnola's (Louis P.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Dickson's (Henry) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion, Battery E.*
Dimon's (Charles A. R.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Volunteers, 1st Regiment.*
Doane's (Charles R.) **Artillery.** See *New Jersey Troops, 4th Battery.*
Dobbs' (Cyrus J.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Dollard's (Robert) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment.*
Dominy's (Levi S.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 118th Regiment.*
Doolittle's (Anson O.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 37th Regiment.*
Dorrell's (William B.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Doty's (Franklin B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 179th Regiment.*
Dunne's (John P.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 115th Regiment.*
Dushane's (Nathan T.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Duvall's (Robert E.) **Cavalry.** See *Purnell Legion, Cavalry, post.*
Dyer's (David) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 57th Regiment.*
Easterly's (George B.) **Artillery.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 4th Battery.*
Eaton's (John B.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 27th Battery.*
Edmonds' (Edward C.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 38th Regiment.*
Elder's (Samuel S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
Ellenbeck's (Robert E.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 22d Regiment.*
Elliott's (Wyatt M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Battalion.*
Elwell's (Andrew) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Excelsior 1st Regiment, Infantry. See *New York Troops, 70th Regiment.*
Excelsior 2d Regiment, Infantry. See *New York Troops, 71st Regiment.*
Excelsior 3d Regiment, Infantry. See *New York Troops, 72d Regiment.*
Excelsior 4th Regiment, Infantry. See *New York Troops, 73d Regiment.*
Excelsior 5th Regiment, Infantry. See *New York Troops, 74th Regiment.*
Faison's (Paul F.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*
Farrington's (Preston M.) **Cavalry.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Fauquier Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Ferebee's (Dennis D.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Fisher's (Samuel S.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 138th Regiment.*

Fitch's (Butler) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Battery.*
Folk's (George N.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 6th Regiment.*
Frankle's (Jones) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment.*
French's (David A.) **Artillery.** See *McComas Artillery, post.*
French's (Frank S.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Batteries E and G.*
Fulkerson's (Abraham) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 63d Regiment.*
Fuller's (Nehemiah P.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery B.*
Fulton's (John S.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 25th and 44th Regiments.*
Galloway's (John W.) **Cavalry.** See *Coast Guard, Cavalry, ante.*
Gantt's (F. Hay) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Gantt's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Regiment.*
Garrard's (Jeptha) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
Geissenhainer's (Charles A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 101st Regiment.*
Gibson's (Augustus A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Glenn's (John F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Godwin's (Archibald C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 57th Regiment.*
Goode's (John T.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 34th Regiment.*
Goodwin's (Francis E.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 25th Regiment.*
Gordon's (John S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery K.*
Graham's (Edward) **Artillery.** See *Petersburg Artillery, post.*
Graham's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Graham's (Robert F.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Graham's (Samuel A.) **Infantry.** See *Purnell Legion, Infantry, post.*
Graves' (Charles C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Gray's (Robert J.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Graybill's (Tully) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 28th Regiment.*
Green's (Charles A.) **Artillery.** See *Louisiana Guard, Artillery, post.*
Griffin's (Joel R.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 62d Regiment.*
Griffin's (William H.) **Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Battery.*
Grimshaw's (Arthur H.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Guion's (George M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Guion's (Henry T.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Guss' (Henry R.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 97th Regiment.*
Haines' (Joel) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 132d Regiment.*
Hallett's (Warren) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery I.*
Hampden Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Hankins' (James D.) **Artillery.** See *Surry Artillery, post.*
Hanson's (Nicholas) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery M.*
Harder's (William W.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 43d Regiment.*
Hardin's (Mark B.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 18th Battalion.*
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